

Hafa Adai!

Girl testifies Roberto said he wanted
to marry her.

» PAGE 3

Large customers still iffy about
CUC incentive tariff.

» PAGE 6

Saipan Tribune

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ROCKY TURTLE

San Juan Beach, located at the end of the Talofofo Road on Capital Hill, is a favorite destination for many tourists who are seeking out-of-the-way adventures. The tortoise-shaped rock formation is also a favorite photo souvenir.

HANAIVY A. BABAUTA



HIGHEST IN ISLANDS' HISTORY

Voters breach 17,000-mark

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

For the first time in CNMI history, the number of registered voters has breached the 17,000-mark on a general election year. As of Aug. 19, the number of registered voters reached 17,071 and is expected to grow further especially with a two-day registration drive in Portland, Oregon, where the 10th Annual CNMI Labor Day Softball Tournament will be held this weekend.

» **Election Commission holds voter registration also in Oregon where gubernatorial bets will campaign**

"Yes this is the highest number of voters registered with this agency," Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero confirmed with *Saipan Tribune*.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan

See **VOTERS** on Page 4

E Land awaits DPL OK on \$130M, 780-room Marpi hotel

» **If OK'd, this will be E Land's first 'new' hotel project in NMI**
» **Honest Profit sets September groundbreaking on \$130M, 300-room San Antonio hotel**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

South Korean investment giant E Land's Micro-nesia Resort Inc. is now just awaiting the Department of Public Lands' approval of their planned \$130-million, 780-room hotel in Marpi which, if approved, will be their first development to be

built "from the ground up" unlike their purchase of three other existing Saipan hotels.

DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday there is no decision yet on E Land's proposed Marpi hotel project.

Meanwhile, DPL said Hong Kong-based Honest Profit International Ltd. will hold a groundbreaking in September for a new \$130-million,

300-room hotel in San Antonio.

Both planned new hotels in Marpi and San Antonio each have a \$130-million investment budget but the number of rooms is different, and this could be a function of the type and quality of the hotel to be built.

Rep. Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), chair-

See **E LAND** on Page 4

INSIDE



NATION

California's strongest earthquake in 25 years hits the heart of its wine country.

» PAGE 14



WORLD

Captured Ukrainian soldiers are paraded through the streets of Donetsk.

» PAGE 16



LIFE & STYLE

Beyoncé closes the MTV Video Music Awards with an epic 20-minute performance.

» PAGE 20

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**SI YU’US MA’ASE! OLOMWAAY! SALAMAT PO!
THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

Girl testifies that Roberto said he wanted to marry her

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 16-year-old girl testified yesterday that former acting Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond B. Roberto once told her that he wants to marry her when she turns 18.

In the continuation of her testimony in the ongoing jury trial of 40-year-old Roberto, the girl said she felt uncomfortable and scared when Roberto talked about marrying her.

When asked by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rami S. Badawy why she felt that way, the girl said it's because Roberto is the father of a relative.

Roberto is on trial for three

counts of enticing three minors to engage in prostitution and one count of witness tampering.

Under cross-examination by defense counsel David J. Lujan, the girl admitted that she and another girl wrote separate letters on Aug. 5, 2013, each demanding \$400 cash from Roberto. Lujan presented in court a copy of the girl's letter that he described as an attempt to blackmail his client.

In the letter, the girl threatened that if Roberto fails to give her the money, she would tell the Federal Bureau of Investigation and police about him and that he will rot in jail.

The girl admitted that she and the other girl talked about

demanding money from Roberto before writing the separate letters.

She said she asked her mother to send her letter to Roberto, but advised her not to open it. The girl said she asked her mother to deliver it because it was only her mother who could visit her at the Juvenile Facility at that time.

The girl said she eventually told her mother about her sexual encounters with Roberto when the FBI agents picked her up.

During the prosecution's direct questioning, Assistant U.S. Attorney Rami S. Badawy showed several pages of text messages, which the girl identified as hers and Roberto's exchange of messages during their negotiations for payment before having sex.

In some of the messages, the

girl explained that Roberto wanted to train another girl, whom he described as a "shy girl," to be more experienced in sex.

In her testimony on Friday, the girl disclosed that she and "shy girl" and her then 15-year-old friend had a foursome with Roberto at the Parkville Motel in Gualo Rai in April 2013.

The girl testified yesterday that Roberto also asked her if she wanted to be videotaped while she and her then-boyfriend were having sex, but she refused to do so.

She said Roberto also asked her to have sex with him without payment, but she said no. She denied having sex with Roberto without payment.

She recalled having sex with Roberto in exchange for cash at

his farm. She could not recall how much he paid her.

She said she would sometimes use her friends' cell phone or her then-boyfriend's cell phone to communicate with Roberto to negotiate or arrange for sex in exchange for cash. The money mentioned ranged from \$20 to \$200.

She disclosed that she once took a photo of Roberto while he was naked, but that she later deleted it because it was her friend's cell phone's camera. She said she took the photo in order for her to get back at Roberto if he ever messes up with her.

During Lujan's cross-examination, the girl said that she always mentioned during interviews by investigators that she ran away from her father

on March 13, 2013. She denied changing her story that it was actually April 10, 2013, when she ran away because investigators learned that Roberto at that time was in American Samoa.

The girl said she may be wrong because she could not recall then as it happened over a year ago.

The girl said she told the FBI special agent that she ran away from her father a day before her stepmother gave birth.

The girl also admitted that she used to smoke methamphetamine or "ice" and is suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder that may have affected her memory of events.

Lujan is expected to continue her cross-examination on the girl today, Tuesday.

Hart: Budget weakens NMC's ability to meet growing needs

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Last Thursday, the Senate left the Northern Marianas College with \$100,000 less than what the House appropriated in its budget plan—a decrease that "considerably weakens" the college's effort to meet local work and educational needs, according to Dr. Sharon Hart, the college's president.

Hart said the college's budget request of \$7.8 million would be used to build and develop programs that meet workforce needs, improve college completion rates in the CNMI, and to sustain compliance with accreditation standards, as well provide quality administrative, instruction, and student services.

"The budget proposal that was passed by the Senate considerably weakens the college's ability to meet workforce needs and to provide quality educational programs and services to an increasing student enrollment," said Hart, when asked to comment.

She cited US. Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez' letter, which asked the Commonwealth to "document good faith efforts to locate, educate, train or other-

wise prepare U.S. citizens and other lawful permanent residents for jobs" as the CW program is set to end in five years.

Hart said the CNMI only has a limited time and should "move quickly to address pressing workforce needs."

"[The college is] already doing our part to help lead this effort but we need more resources to sustain the momentum," she said.

In an earlier interview, Hart described the college an avenue for the local workforce, as everything from their two-year or four-year degrees in education, business, criminal justice or natural resources are sought after by students who want to land jobs.

Hart also cited the WASC Senior College and University Commission's criteria that a college should have financial stability and sufficient resources to ensure long-term viability.

As reported earlier, Hart disclosed that from fiscal years 2007 to 2013, the total CNMI government appropriation to the college has decreased by 21 percent, from \$5.8 million to \$4.8 million.

Yet during the same time period, she said, student enrollment increased by about 26 percent.

Guam pursuing cases vs tax evaders

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Despite a lack of resources and investigators, Guam territorial officials say they're pursuing cases against people who evade taxes.

The *Pacific Daily News* reported Monday that Revenue and Tax Director John Camacho says a case has been forwarded to the territory's attorney general.

If the attorney general moves forward, it would be the first tax fraud case pursued in Guam in more than 15 years.

Camacho declined to comment on the specifics of the pending case or whether it involves businesses or individuals. The territory is pursuing more cases, he said.

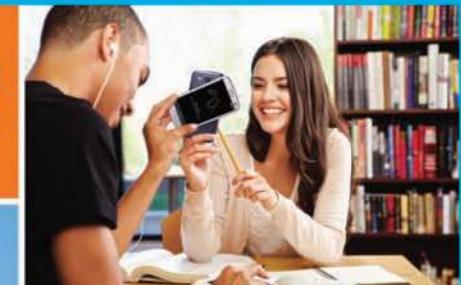
Carlina Charfauros, spokeswoman for the attorney general, confirmed the office received the case but declined to provide details.

Camacho said the investigations are difficult because proving people are dodging taxes carries a high burden of proof for the government. He says, among other things, the government needs to prove it was intentional.

"We need to prove there's multiple years involved," Camacho said.

If the government can't put together a solid criminal case, it can also try for a civil settlement.

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Nearly \$10M in over 10 years for contamination cleanup

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has spent \$9.5 million over the last 10 years to clean up hazardous waste left behind by the U.S. military in the CNMI.

The agency has also set aside \$4 million this year for the cleanup of three areas contaminated with leftover military activities during and right after World War II on Saipan,

the highest annual funding of its kind for the CNMI in recent period.

Sablan said work on three of the formerly used defense sites, or FUDS, is completed. These include those in I'Denni, Tanapag, and Kagman Airfield.

Nine remaining FUDS properties have been identified, all on the island of Saipan. These include Marpi Point Field, Nafitan Bomb Storage, Naftan Ord-

nance Disposal, North Field, Ordnance Plan, Talofofo Hospital Dump Site, Tanapag Fuel Farm, Koblerville Naval Supply Center, and American Memorial Park.

"Although the U.S. does the work, the Commonwealth's Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality is responsible for oversight. Our local community also has a role in identifying problem areas and pressing

for action, as the Tanapag Action Group did so effectively in the 1990s to force a cleanup of polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in Tanapag," Sablan said.

He said in Congress, every year, he supports funding the FUDS program to assure that the work can continue in the CNMI "until all hazardous wastes are removed."

FUDS cleanups are done by

doctors and nurses from CHC.

EVM founder and director Rose Smith noted that Northern Marianas College nursing students have also volunteered.

The team from CHC includes doctors Esther Kanajorn, Jean Olivia Grant, Jules Smith, and John Doyle as well as Helen William (NP) and Erin Dean (PA), according to Smith.

On top of the free screenings, Smith said EVM is also asking the community's help to donate school supplies and shoes to help families in need before

school starts next week.

According to Smith, the school supplies will be sent to schools on Rota, and the shoe donations will available to families in need at EVM's office along Middle Road.

Smith thanks CHC chief executive officer Esther Muñña for her approval of the event as well as the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Smith believes the screenings will help people as she notices positive changes in member at their regular monthly meetings

for women where screenings are provided as well.

"Some [members] get healthier, and there are some [who were] not even aware that they are diabetic," she said of the benefits of screening.

In an interview, Kanajorn and Smith thanked CHC's Muñña and others as the event would not have been possible without her approval and the assistance of others from CHC like Jesse Tudela, Janet Guerrero, Becky Robles, and Trina Sablan. (*Dennis B. Chan*)

EVM to host 'A Night of Giving' at Street Market

Empty Vessel Ministry will host "A Night of Giving" at the Garapan Street Market this Thursday as it partners with the Commonwealth Health Center to provide free medical screenings for hypertension and type II diabetes as well as consultation with doctors.

Other partners in the event include Hardt Eye Clinic, which will provide free eye screenings, Marianas Visiting Nurses and Marianas Health, who have nurses volunteering to help the Commonwealth Health Center team of



Underwood to speak at 67th Air Force Ball

University of Guam president Dr. Robert A. Underwood will be the featured speaker at the 67th Air Force Ball on Sept. 13 at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort.

The theme of the ball celebrates Guam's 70th Liberation Day and "The Dawn of Pa-

cific Airpower on Guam."

Underwood recently met with Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Toth, commander, 36th Wing & Deputy Commander, Joint Region Marianas and other Air Force officials in the president's conference room at the UOG campus. (*UOG*)

From left: Chief Master Sergeant Michael A. McMillan, Command Chief, 36th Wing; Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Toth, commander, 36th Wing & Deputy commander, Joint Region Marianas; UOG president Dr. Robert Underwood; Col. Tyrell A. Chamberlain, vice commander, 36th Wing; and Jeff Meyer, historian, 36th Wing and UOG graduate.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

VOTERS

From Page 1

(Ind-MP) separately said the number of registered voters back when he was Election Commission executive director was lower than 17,000.

Private groups have been beefing up campaigns for young adults to register to vote, separate from the registration drives that the Election Commission has been conducting.

In the 2009 general elections, there were 16,146 registered voters. During the 2005 general elections, the number was 15,118.

Just like any other country, however, the actual votes cast in the CNMI is lower than the total number of registered voters in any election year.

The Election Commission board certified all 99 candidates for 44 positions, which do not include the one justice and two judges that are up for retention.

Of the 17,071 registered voters as of last week, over 27 percent or 4,704 is from election district 1 on Saipan, which covers San Antonio, San Vicente,

and Koblerville.

Over 19 percent or 3,379 is from election district 3, covering San Jose/Oleai and Gagpan.

Election district 5 or Kagman so far has 2,703 registered voters, followed by election district 4 with 1,723. Election district 4 covers Tanapag, San Roque, Capital Hill, and the Northern Islands.

Rota or election district 7 so far has 1,692 registered voters, while Tinian or election district 6 has 1,456.

Election district 2 or the Chalan Kanoa/Susupe area has the lowest number of registered voters at 1,414.

The last day for voters' registration for the 2014 elections is on Sept. 5, just 60 days before the polls.

All roads to Oregon

Guerrero said there will be a 2014 general election registration drive on Aug. 30 and 31, from 10am to 5pm, at Delta Park/Owens Sports Complex in Portland, Oregon, where the 10th Annual CNMI Labor

Day Softball Tournament will be held for the Nov. 4 race if not one of the teams gets at least 50 percent plus 1 of the votes cast during the Nov. 4 general elections.

The four gubernatorial candidates for the Nov. 4 race are all headed for Portland, Oregon. Two of them will be traveling with their running mates.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos of the Republican Party left for Oregon on Sunday but will be back in the CNMI in time for Sunday's Labor Day festivities here.

Democratic Party Edward "Tofila" M. Deleon Guerrero is also headed for Oregon, and so does independent gubernatorial candidate Heinz S. Hofschneider.

Another independent gu-

bernatorial candidate, Juan N. Babauta, left Saipan yesterday afternoon for a multi-state campaign.

Babauta told *Saipan Tribune*, while he was at the airport, that he will be attending the opening ceremonies of the CNMI's Annual Softball Tournament in Oregon.

"I will be making a stop in Hawaii, San Diego, Las Vegas and Portland. I will return after the opening ceremonies. I look forward to meetings with our CNMI residents and talking with them about the future of the CNMI," Babauta added.

The CNMI is likely headed for a gubernatorial runoff race if not one of the teams gets at least 50 percent plus 1 of the votes cast during the Nov. 4 general elections.

Moreover, a special election will be held to fill a vacancy at the Senate vacated by former floor leader Ray Yumul, now a certified candidate for lieutenant governor and Hofschneider's running mate.

Meanwhile, the request for absentee ballots started on Aug. 21, or 75 days before the general elections.

the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, while the U.S. Congress appropriates the funds through the U.S. Department of Defense.

Saipan was the site of heavy fighting between U.S. and Japa-

nese forces during World War II. To this day, live ordnance and chemicals from the war are still being discovered in several areas of the island. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)

ing the mayor's office resolve its billings.

Farrell said they recognize that CUC probably doesn't have the cash on hand to reimburse the Tinian mayor's office for the transfer of some \$676,000 from the Tinian mayor's office 2014 budget to CUC in April this year.

"However, we must rectify the problem and at least make an appropriate credit to our account. We would appreciate it if you would continue to work with our staff to resolve the MOT accounts in the near future," Farrell told CUC's Manglona.

Finance paid CUC \$676,000 for the Tinian mayor's office utility billings. It was later discovered that CUC erred in its reading of the Tinian mayor's office's power meter. Now, the Tinian mayor's office seeks reimbursement or future credit to its account.

Acting press secretary Ivan Blanco, meanwhile, said yesterday that the reconciliation matter is now between the Tinian mayor's office and CUC.

However, Blanco said, Finance will help facilitate dialogue between the two parties.

Yesterday, Farrell said he does not know how acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider could tell the media that he is not aware of the Tinian finance problems when both newspapers reported it as early as April.

"Since then, we have worked with Tinian CUC staff and discovered that our billings are bogus which led to our recent letter to Senator Taimanao. After all, the governor assigned the responsibility of overseeing Tinian's needs to the lieutenant governor when they assumed executive office over a year ago. And early this year, the lieutenant governor opened his own office on Tinian, fully staffed—from what budget we do not know. How could he not be aware of the problem?" Farrell told reporters.

E LAND

From Page 1

man of the House Natural Resources Committee, separately said yesterday he hopes that DPL will carefully consider each and every proposal on the use of limited public lands.

Saipan lacks hotel rooms to accommodate a growing number of tourists. This is why DPL and the government are looking at more hotel constructions and renovations.

Taeho Kim, chief operating officer of E Land's Micronesian Resort Inc., reiterated E Land's interest in pursuing the Marpi hotel project.

"We are now just waiting for an opportunity to sit down and negotiate [with DPL]," MRI's Kim added.

Trial begins in case vs hotel burglary suspect

A jury trial began yesterday in Superior Court in the case against Kyle K. Cabael, who was part of a group that allegedly burglarized and stole some money and items from one of the rooms at Monte Vista Hotel and Restaurant.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho is presiding over the trial. Assistant attorneys general James McAllister and Clayton Graef are prosecuting the case.

Veteran lawyer Colin Thompson is counsel for Cabael, who is facing burglary, theft, and conspiracy charges. Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero, who is a former police officer, is the defense's private investigator.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom yesterday afternoon, Thompson was still questioning the government's second witness.

Kevin Muña, another defendant in this case, has already pleaded guilty and turned government witness. He is expected to testify at Cabael's trial.

Last month, Camacho dis-

missed without prejudice the case against a third defendant, Vicente Terlaje, who was accused of possessing methamphetamine or "ice."

Camacho dismissed the case against Terlaje after the Office of the Attorney General moved to drop the charge of illegal possession of a controlled substance. Dismissal without prejudice means the OAG can re-file the case in the future.

McAllister made an oral motion to dismiss the case against the 35-year-old Terlaje based on the fact that the government got a new police report that warrants the dismissal.

According to the first amended information, on Feb. 19, 2014 on Saipan, Terlaje knowingly possessed "ice."

Attorney Jennifer Dockter, counsel for Terlaje, has moved to suppress evidence, citing that nothing supports a warrant for the search of drugs at Cabael's residence.

Police said that cash and several items were stolen from one

of the rooms at Monte Vista Hotel and Restaurant during

Feb. 17, 2014, burglary.

A surveillance camera at a

store reportedly led to the arrest and filing of charges against

Cabael and his co-defendants. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

UKULELE CLASS

Students of Joeten Kiyu Public Library's Summer Ukulele Class have their picture taken during one of their classes. The classes began on July 2 and ended on Aug. 20. Ukulele classes are held at Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in partnership with ukulele instructor Larry Lee. The next ukulele session will be in September. If you are interested on enrolling on our next cycle, call Celina or Erlinda at 235-7315 / 7316 / 7322 during regular library hours.

NMC continues to upgrade facilities

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Over \$1 million worth of renovations to the facilities of Northern Marianas College have been planned, are ongoing, or have been completed on the islands of Saipan, Rota, and Tinian, according to a NMC Facilities Report prepared this month.

The report—dated Aug. 12—cites a number of \$1.13 million in renovations from both local and federal funds, which are designated into either long-term or short-term projects.

One long-term project, the renovation of the college's Building K, was completed this month to replace its termite-damaged roof and gut its interior, among other upgrades.

On Saipan, short-term projects completed—since a facility project listing updated in 2013—were the rehabilitation of breezeways at NMC'S building J/K, H/I, and B/C, a building Q retrofit for its community development offices and classrooms, and replacement of facia at buildings G, J, and H.

Rota's NMC facility now has LED lighting installed through the use of \$30,000 in ARRA funds as well as four refurbished classrooms that can accommodate 45 persons each. Other refurbished sites include a computer lab, accommodating 15 people, and a video teleconference room, accommodating 45.

According to the report, Tinian campus has had its block bathroom renovated, while ongoing upgrades include installation of smoke alarms and LED lighting, replacement of exterior lighting fixtures, and repair and repainting of doors and jambs, among other upgrades.

Facility upgrades are part of

the college's facilities master plan approved in 2011. Projects are overseen by the college's facilities planning committee, which has been tasked with procuring funding for long-term projects.

For the college's Cooperative Research Extension and Education Services projects listed under the report include establishing a water distribution system from the college's aquaculture facility to its Building G's food science kitchen, among other upgrades and repairs.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho maintained yesterday the \$20,000 cash bail that he earlier imposed on each of the three men who were allegedly caught in the act of burglarizing the former Koreana Hotel in Chalan Kanoa and stealing copper wires early Saturday morning.

Camacho appointed the Office of the Public Defender as counsel for Nelson Atalig Ramon. Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig appeared as counsel for the 34-year-old Ra-

mon at the initial bail hearing.

Camacho will appoint private counsel for defendants Jonathan Taitano Blas, 30, and Patrick Mendiola, 37.

Ramon, Blas, and Mendiola were arrested for burglary and theft. A fourth suspect, Jose Blas, reportedly confessed to the police and cooperated with the investigation. It is not clear whether Jose Blas will also be charged.

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that members of the Department

of Public Safety's Charlie Shift Patrol Unit responded to the former Koreana Hotel on Saturday at 3:42am, after receiving a call from a woman about a burglary in progress.

The officers caught the four suspects exiting a small window for the generator room on the southern portion of the former hotel. Police recovered from the suspects large copper wires that were cut and rolled into bundles of about 50 to 100 feet.

Pangelinan said that Jose Blas

showed her the trail into the jungle located on the southern portion of the building and also led her to a small window for the generator room at the former hotel.

It was allegedly Ramon's idea to burglarize and steal copper wires from the establishment. Ramon was the one who allegedly brought a flashlight, hacksaw, and pliers at the scene.

Jose Blas said it was the three who went into the generator room and rolled the copper wires. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

\$20K bail each for suspected copper wire thieves

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Large customers still uncertain about CUC incentive tariff

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Hotel Association of the Northern Marianas Islands is a little apprehensive whether the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s proposed incentive rate tariff for large commercial customers will work.

This comes as the proposed master incentive rate contract that was agreed upon between the regulatory Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and CUC for large commercial customers is close to being finalized. CPUC consultant Georgetown Consulting Services is now reviewing the fi-

nal version of the contract that CUC wants to ink with large commercial customers.

Yet several large commercial customers are still on the fence about the plan.

"[This is] because the large commercial customers have always had their own generators for many years. It is more

difficult to switch over to CUC," said HANMI president and Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

CUC executive director Alan Fletcher said they want to put large customers on the grid and that some large cus-

tomers are now just waiting for the approval of the rate.

The proposed incentive rate tariff targets three classes of commercial customers.

First are commercial customers with generation capacity of 400 kW or greater and generate 90 percent or more of their annual electric needs. Second are commercial customers that expand their existing facility that results in an increased load of 200 kW or greater or expand their hotel by 75 rooms or greater. Third are new commercial customers with electric generation capacity of

400 kW or greater.

"We have to consider many things. Of course we want to support CUC because it is a public utilities [agency] that helps the CNMI's electricity but at the same time we have to think of our business as well and that is why we still can't decide on that yet if we want to [connect] or not," Nishikawa said.

According to CPUC chair Joseph Guerrero, they will receive comments on the proposed contract that CUC had sent for the regulatory commission to review around this month.

Marines on Tinian for next phase of training



Don Farrell, chief of staff of Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, right, visits the harbor area with operations officer Capt. Kevin Wheeler, left, to discuss the route that will be taken by Marine Corps vehicles as they leave the dock and proceed to West Field.

The advance team from Marine Corps Forces Pacific arrived on Tinian this weekend and is now working with various officials and local contractors to prepare for their next big operation.

Operations officer Capt.

Kevin Wheeler and his team met with Don Farrell, chief of staff of Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, yesterday morning to define the immediate scope of work and make arrangements for local support.

Following a briefing in the Mayor of Tinian's conference room, Farrell visited the harbor area with Wheeler to discuss the route that will be taken by Marine Corps vehicles as they leave the dock and

proceed to West Field, where this iteration's activities will take place.

The barge carrying the heavy equipment for clearing Runway Echo will be arriving on or about this Thursday, Aug. 28. (PR)

Rotaract Club collects over 700 lbs of garbage

Rotaract Club of Saipan has started their monthly community outreach campaign with beach cleanups at major use areas.

A total of 10 active Rotaract members began their cleanup this past Sunday from Susupe Beach Park toward the beach area behind Aquarius Beach Tower.

The cleanup began at 7am and concluded at 9:30am, collecting 702 lbs of garbage scattered throughout the park, beach, and surrounding areas.

According to Rotaract vice president Del Mendiola, "This cleanup is just a starting point for Rotaract Club of Saipan and we feel that it is a service project in need of continuity. We are also reaching out to public schools for another project. Although we are a new club, our mission is still in line with Rotary International philosophy. We will be doing fun-raising campaigns in the coming months but as of now, if the community is in need, we can provide

manpower."

An upcoming project is tied to helping public school elementary students increase not only their literacy but their leadership, advocacy and character building skills.

"I feel that the sense of giving back to the community starts at a very young age and can grow stronger or falter depending on the guidance these kids receive," Mendiola said.

The Rotaract Club of Saipan is part of an international organization that focuses on humanitarian and education initiatives throughout the world to enhance or improve relations between countries and people.

The Rotaract Club of Saipan is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Saipan and membership is made up of young professionals such as business and community leaders between the ages of 18 and 30.

Meetings are hosted at noon every other Saturday at various



Rotaract Club members collect 702 lbs of garbage during a cleanup from Susupe Beach Park toward the beach behind Aquarius Beach Tower this past Sunday.

local businesses. This upcoming Saturday, Aug. 30, at Naked Fish Bar & Grill will mark the sixth membership meeting since the club's membership installation in July. The club is still recruiting like-minded individuals with dedication and determina-

tion to service above self so if you are interested in joining the Rotaract Club of Saipan, email the club at rotaractofsapian@gmail.com or check out their website at www.rotaractofsapian.wix.com/rotaract-of-sapian. (Rotaract)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Free screening for oral cancer

Please call any of the following clinics to find out when is the best time to walk in for a free screening:

- Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Clinic: (670) 234-6323

- New Wave Dental: (670) 233-3300

- Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.: (670) 236-8369

- Smile Marianas Dental Clinic: (670) 235-3720/2378

- Dental Care Clinic: (670) 233-1100/1

- Tooth Works: (670) 234-3810/1/6

For more information call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at (670) 680-0050 or log on to CCA website at www.cca-marianas.org. (CCA)

San Antonio Middle School parent orientation

Parents orientation schedule for San Antonio Middle School students:

- Aug. 26 (Tuesday): 6th Grade, 5pm to 6pm

- Aug. 27 (Wednesday): 7th Grade, 5pm to 6pm

- Aug. 28 (Thursday): 8th Grade, 5pm to 6pm. (PR)

Student orientation at Oleai Elementary

Oleai Elementary School would like to inform the parents and guardians of Oleai Elementary School students that there will be a Student Orientation for school year 2014-2015 for all incoming and continuing students on Thursday, Aug. 28, and Friday, Aug. 29, at 5pm in the school cafeteria.

School year 2014-2015 class schedule will be follows:

- 7:55am—First Bell for Kinder AM Session and all grades (K-6th)

- 8:00am—Tardy Bell

- 11:00am—Kinder AM Session dismissal

- 11:45am—Kinder PM Session begins

- 2:30pm—Dismissal for Kinder PM Session and all grades (K-6th)

Also, PTSA will be sponsoring a "Beautify OES Day" on Aug. 30, from 8am to 2pm. Parents, guardians, students, teachers, staff and the community are invited to help prepare our school grounds for the new school year. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend OES activities. (PR)

Free CFLs to be given away on Rota

The CNMI Department of Public Works' Energy Division announced yesterday that it will hold Residential Compact Fluorescent Lamps Distribution Events under the Energy, Efficiency, and Conservation Block Grant to provide individuals residing on Rota the

opportunity to receive free energy-efficient Energy Star-rated CFLs to help lower energy use and cost to promote energy efficiency and conservation within the CNMI.

The DPW/Energy Division EECBG staff will be distributing 16 energy-efficient Energy

Star-rated CFLs to residential consumers. The event will be available to distribute CFLs on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies lasts.

Distribution schedule and location will be at the Rota Mayor's Office, Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Li-

brary Building, in Tatachog, on Aug. 27, 28, and 29, from 8:30am to 11:30am and from 1pm to 4:30pm.

In order to receive the CFLs, residential consumers must present a valid identification card with photo and a copy of their most recent CUC utility

bill with their name, account number, and electric consumption on the billing.

Businesses are not eligible to participate in the event. Additionally, if for any reason unforeseen situations arise regarding flight schedules, the events will automatically be cancelled

until such time other arrangements are confirmed.

For more information or questions regarding the event, call the DPW Energy Division's EECBG Office at (670) 664-4487/89/90 and ask for Maggie Untalan or Shawn Pangelinan. (DPW)

SCS welcomes families to open house



Saipan Community School principal Bobby Winkfield, right, and his staff recently welcomed parents and students to an open house.

MCS set to run SAT Boot Camp for 6th year in a row

For the sixth year in a row, Mount Carmel School will offer its SAT Boot Camp. First offered in the fall of 2009, the six-week boot camp is designed to help students improve their performance on the College Board's SAT, a standardized test used for most college admissions in the United States.

The program curriculum helps students analyze and explain how the test is designed and scored; learn and utilize effective test-taking strategies; review and refresh content knowledge in English and Math; and ease test-taking anxiety and increase comfort and confidence by taking practice tests. The program alternates between practice tests, group sessions, and English and Math tutoring.

Over the years, over a hundred students have taken the boot camp, many of whom have increased their SAT scores by an average of 200 points. In some cases, students have raised their scores by almost 400 points.

This year's SAT Boot Camp will run from Sept. 2 to Oct. 9 and is open to all high school students. The fee is \$200 for Mount Carmel School students and \$300 for those not enrolled at the school. Application forms are available at the school and online at the school's website, www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. Application forms are due by Friday, Aug. 29. For more information, call 234-6184 or email galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com. (MCS)

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works**

2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center

Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW14-IFB-006

PRECINCT V VARIOUS ROADS PROJECT, SAIPAN, CNMI



Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofsneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Precinct V Various Roads Project, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after August 26, 2014 at the Department of Public Works Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capital Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on September 12, 2014, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on September 18, 2014 to Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Responses to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If there should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or if there is any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid. The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addendum, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW-14-IFB-005". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 29, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 29, 2014, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 29, 2014 and must be received no later than October 8, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of the bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at 10:00 a.m. local time, October 9, 2014. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on September 29, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations §70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Gov't Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Two Hundred Ten (210) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of Five Hundred Dollars (US\$500.00) for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/MARTIN C. SABLON
Secretary of Public Works

/s/HERMAN S. SABLON
Director of Procurement and Supply

Parents, family members, and friends gathered at the Saipan Community School chapel to meet and greet their new teachers. After opening with prayer, school principal Bobby Winkfield introduced his staff to the audience and gave general information for the opening of the school year.

"We are very excited to start the school year. We have many returning teachers, and everyone is looking forward to building on last year's successes," Winkfield said.

Teachers then proceeded to the classrooms ahead of the crowd that would tour the campus. Also touring the campus were Saipan Community Church board members and pastors.

Parents were greeted in the classrooms with opportunities to encourage their children to learn well this year. Many wrote notes to their children while sitting in their seats, and some even left a handprint as a symbol their encouragement. Smiling faces were everywhere and the energy and excitement was a testament to the joy of learning.

Saipan Community School, with its 40-year history, is the longest standing Protestant school on the island. Enrollment is still open for Kindergarten to eighth grade. (SCS)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP14-DOC-143**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"CNMI DOC FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM, A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS"

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER AUGUST 19, 2014 AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 05, 2014 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME AT THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, TEKKEN STREET, SUSIPE, SAIPAN.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO COMMISSIONER RAMON C. MAFNAS VIA E-MAIL TO rmfnas@gmail.com OR BY FAX TO (670) 664-9515 NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARINAISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ RAMON C. MAFNAS
COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, August 29, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor of the Captain George Fleming Building, at the Port of Saipan.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

II. CORRESPONDENCES

1. TasiTours

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Financial Affairs Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committee
5. Ad-Hoc Committee on SIA Master Concession

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

V. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Military CJMP & Divert Matter
2. Personnel:
a. Contract Renewals
b. Job Vacancy Announcements
3. Freedom Air
4. Comments SB 18-56
5. FY 2015 Budget
6. Supplemental Request

VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION/Legal Counsel Report

X. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/JOSE R. LIFOFO
Chairman, Board of Directors

August 22, 2014

MEET THE BREW MASTER

MarPac showcases 5 beer kinds in food pairing event

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA
editor_saipantribune.com
EDITOR

Call me a philistine but I've always thought that beer was a beverage that you swill beachside on lazy Sunday afternoons while searing pieces of meat on a bed of burning coals. That it doesn't require much science or frills to enjoy a cold glass of lager. Of course that's also true but I learned Monday last week that there's more to beer than meets the eye—or in this case, the palate. Much like wine, I learned that beer is best enjoyed when paired with carefully selected food, that each brand of beer has its own character, and that beer is best served on a glass, with a frothy head of foam to prevent bloat.

MarPac, the distributor of Anheuser-Busch beers in the CNMI, hosted Monday at Coral Ocean Point's elegant Double Eagle Restaurant the "Meet the

Brew Master," a beer-and-food pairing event that featured the expertise of George F. Reisch, a fifth generation brewmaster who is also the director of Brewmaster Outreach for Anheuser-Busch.

The occasion, attended by many of Saipan's crème de la crème, featured five food stations, each one paired with five, free-flowing Anheuser-Busch products: Budweiser, Budlight Platinum, Landshark, Michelob Amberbock, Budlight Lime-a-rita, and Budlight Straw-ber-rita. The extensive array of food, courtesy of COP executive chef Eduardo Olarte and his team, highlighted the subtleties and complexities of each beer brand, giving lie to the notion that beer is just beer.

Olarte told *Saipan Tribune* that he came up with the menu suggestions and he and his team collaborated with the MarPac team to ensure the perfect fit

for each beer that would be featured at the event. What was amazing was that the food being paired with the beers were not just appetizers and main entrees but also dessert, fruits, strudels, eggplant caviar, spring rolls, and a whole lot more that you'd never thought would go well with lager.

MarPac resident manager Guy Pudney said that Monday's event was part of the celebration of the 65th anniversary of Ambros Inc., which is MarPac's Guam branch. That also explains the reason for Reisch presence in Micronesia. He said that after Saipan, Reisch will be going to Palau, where the company is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

"We're very excited [to celebrate our 65th year], we're very blessed, we can only thank our very loyal customers out there and we're hoping that we'll be around for many, many more

years," said Pudney.

This is the second time for MarPac to host the "Meet the Brew Master" event. The first one was held last year at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. This year's

event also featured the relaxing melodies of the Marianas Project Band.

MarPac would like give thanks to Coral Ocean Golf Resort, Triple J, and Angus Beef

for sponsoring the event. We'd also like to recognize Coral Ocean Point's staff, most especially Chef Ed, for their tremendous service and delicious food pairing ideas.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MarPac resident manager Guy Pudney, third from left, joins guests at the "Meet the Brew Master" event at the Coral Ocean Point's Double Eagle Restaurant on Aug. 18.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Brewmaster George F. Reisch talks about the finer points of drinking beer with guests at the "Meet the Brew Master" event at the Coral Ocean Point's Double Eagle Restaurant on Aug. 18.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This year's event edition of the "Meet the Brew Master" featured the relaxing melodies of the Marianas Project Band.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Anheuser Busch InBev Sales Area Manager Josh McCormick, center, is joined by guests at the "Meet the Brew Master" event.



▲ SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Guests pose for the *Saipan Tribune* at the "Meet the Brew Master" event at the Coral Ocean Point's Double Eagle Restaurant on Aug. 18.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Triple J Wholesale general manager Jay Santos, right, is joined by other guests at the "Meet the Brew Master" event.

Five rules to live by when drinking beer

George F. Reisch, a Brewmaster at Anheuser-Busch Inc., talked about the importance of drinking beer from a glass at the "Meet the Brew Master" event at Coral Ocean Point. In a later interview, I asked him of five rules that any amateur drinker should know about when drinking beer. Here is his rundown:

1 "In the history of mankind, drinking beer and wine helped us to survive up to this point because pathogens cannot grow in beer and wine. So if you are in an area where you're worried about the water, drink beer."

2 "Always use a glass when drinking beer because beer was designed to be served in a glass. It wasn't until bottles and cans that people started drinking directly out of the bottle and they're not supposed to do that."

3 "Beer physically makes you hungry. So it's a great way for some people, if they

don't have an appetite or for a lot of older people, by just sipping three ounces of beer their stomach will start to growl and they'll want to have food. It's very important to eat, so beer is a natural fit with food because it physically makes you hungry."

4 "People need to have the whole beer experience. It's not just drinking beer. The beer experience includes what's the story of the beer, where is it from, how is it brewed, what ingredients does it use, tell me something about it."

5 "A beer's clothing is the glass. The glass shape is vitally important because it makes you appreciate what that beer wants you to appreciate. For instance, Michelob Amberbock is meant to be in a wider glass because you want it to look rich and smooth. If you put it in a champagne flute, it looks very light and looks like a totally different beer."



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Brewmaster George F. Reisch, left, interviews Coral Ocean Point executive chef Ed Olarte about how he came up with the array of food and delicacies that were served at the "Meet the Brew Master" event.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Former representative Rosemond Santos, left, enjoys a moment with Pacific Islands Club's Vicky Benavente and other guests.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

John Myers, Ambros regional manager, left, and Brewmaster George, have their picture taken with the COP staff.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Joeten's Clarence Tenorio Jr., right, and JJ Tenorio, second from left, are seen here enjoying their food and drinks.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Rep. Ralph Yumul and guest enjoy the varied offerings at the "Meet the Brew Master" event.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Former associate judge Juan Lizama, second from right, is joined in the table by Darren Flores and Cecilia Flores, the son and wife of the late Saipan mayor Donald P. Flores.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

MarPac's James Lee, standing, poses with guests at the "Meet the Brew Master" event.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Rep. Edmund Villagomez, left, and House representative candidate Ed Propst join another guest at the "Meet the Brew Master" event.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

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EDITORIAL

James Foley's murder exposes militants' evil



In this May 27, 2011, file photo shows American Journalist James Foley, of Rochester, N.H., as he poses for a photo in Boston.

Those who serve as foreign correspondents in dangerous places are often asked: "Why would you put yourself in harm's way?"

The answer typically is that the life gets in one's blood, and the excitement produces an adrenaline rush. Some correspondents spend virtually their entire working lives overseas, dodging bullets and chemical weapons and guerrilla fighters.

James Foley, a freelance photojournalist, lived that kind of life after growing up in the small town of Rochester, N.H.

Foley now has become the latest journalist targeted by militants, this time the Islamic State, an offshoot of al-Qaida. A video posted Wednesday showed Foley being beheaded, and a knife-wielding fighter promised that more American captives would die because of U.S. strikes on Islamic fighters in northern Iraq.

Life means little to these militants who slay children, women, aid workers and journalists. They kill for revenge and indiscriminately. James Foley was not a soldier in the field against them. He was doing his very dangerous job.

Americans know such work is risky, from the World Wars and Vietnam and Iraq and Afghanistan where journalists have been at risk in the midst of combat. But in early 2002, a Wall Street Journal reporter, Daniel Pearl, was kidnapped by Pakistani militants and killed on camera while on assignment in Pakistan. Like Foley, Pearl was no stranger to the hazards of his profession.

But Pearl's murder showed that militants behind a particular ideology were willing to take any step, commit any act, to make their point. Foreign correspondents will carry on, because that is what they do. James Foley's work showed the suffering that comes with war. In death, he showed the Islamic State's evil to the world.



Shou Wang

Hang on to hope" is the name of the school where I last taught children how to handle their oral English. They were thought to be too young to learn on their own. I remember parents anxious to get their children ahead of the curve so they rammed English lessons down their throats so they can qualify to enter the bilingual schools like Yu Chai.

At first, the parents were belligerent about the no-textbook approach their child's new teacher followed. After all, they invested heavily on many aids provided by the Cambridge/Oxford/Princeton Press related publications that might have been hastily copied by enterprising shops in Shanghai and Beijing. Besides, learning meant suffering. Parents came prepared to sit through the hour session to make sure their child paid attention. The children were so fear stricken with stern Mom's look in the class that their brain shriveled under the pressure of sessions. One mother even interjected herself in a class when her child did not answer fast enough, and responded as a matter of pride to a question for her "baby."

I allowed parents to remain in the classroom, ever looking for the opportunity to hit "two birds with one stone" (an unfortunate metaphor) until I reminded myself that my priority were the kids; the parents only a distant second. Not surprisingly, when the children were left to themselves with the teacher, the learning process accelerated.

Our method was simple. Students listened to what was uttered, and repeated them so they can hear their own vocal chords making sounds. We shunned reading; the focus was on hearing, so I got them to listen (*ting*) and repeat (*chungfu*).

For a start, we focused on what they heard publicly. We had ample materials. They listened to English songs but they did not repeat the words since mimicking is a gift and a talent. Not many claimed the ability to sing, the first balloon to be punctured since everyone can utter a sound.

One song used was familiar, about butterflies (*hudie*), sang first in Chinese and later, in English. There were three such songs. The translations were not standard Oxford, but a Chinese singer sang them with "Chinese characteristics"! That's when I came up with the Deutsch *englisCHe* word to denote the British Isles' mixed Celt, Norman, and Angle tongues, now getting global massaging including that of the Chinese (CH) with its own characteristics.

The trick is to get the students to pronounce words, letting them hear themselves do so. They needed to hear themselves repeat the word. This seemed to be a step skipped in the classroom as the intent was usually to "understand" meaning; they were taught how to use the dictionary, write and recognize words, but for all practical purposes, retained the Chinese characters, and forgot the English word save when it was memorized before taking tests. We unearthed other songs in the popular media, par-

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinopanda2031@aol.com.



ticularly from animated movies. I will get a lot of mileage from *Frozen* in the coming months to come.

A recitation that I used with motion patterned after the *tai-chi* without bothering with meaning is about a watermelon, *Yi ge da xi gua*, familiar to local audiences. We start with breathing, deeply and continuously, *sans* stress or strain. The same goes with the movement of muscles and bones, where the stressed chop and jab, usually associated with martial arts, takes gracious form in fluid body muscle and bone movement, and heavy soul (breathing).

*I have one big watermelon.
I slice it in half.
One for you, and one for me.*

The motions are simple. We stand with feet slightly apart, children facing teacher, beginning with a sustained deep inhaling through the nose and exhaling of breath through the mouth while arms are down; palms facing inward are then lifted to the middle of the body trunk, palms now crossed and turned down and out to the top of the stretch and swinging outward to make the form of a big "O" ending with palms resting together in front below the stomach. This was done while loudly reciting the first two lines above.

The "slice" part began where the big "O" ended, the palms facing up, the right atop the left were raised just to the level of the chest, turning it so both faced in and then out until both palms reached the top of the stretch and with palms together like the universal gesture of prayer were brought down to cut the front air straight down in half, palms pointing to the ground together.

The "belonging" part had the hands with limp wrists raised back, the left above the right and shoving a cloud to the side, and doing the reverse on the right side.

It was an uncomplicated exercise, with the students mouthing their English words to gestures they already knew on a ritual they already understood. They listened and repeated, a lesson we wanted them to internalize for learning to learn on their own. Lessons advanced to describe sense experiences, express feelings, articulate thoughts, and declare acts. It followed a natural process. That simple!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish

and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Tiempon Areglu!

Mampus disareglau, diskalentau yan tai apunteria 'sino direksion i hinananau-ta na tiempon. Taya' metgot na kapitan gi hilu' galaide'ta na kontodu i pasaheru siha man-tai kinemprende para manu siha. Kulan i galaide'ta mama'ya' gi tadtuñg tasi pinapanag katkuet direksion ni man-dafikulun napu 'sino lañgat.

Kada unu kunsu direksioña. Todu mañgekuento, ni unu ume'ekuñgog. Kontodu i kapitan ha abandona checho'ña. Un' kontentu pumasaheru guine na galaide'? Kau un' fattu halom gi safu na puettu dispues de 'nos kuantos dias? Yangin ni kapitan no siakassu, haf' mohon ennau na mensahe ha signifika?

Mauleg kada unu' u sugu' gi katsadan silensi na patte gi hinasaña. Ekuñgog un' ratu maseha pot para un' huñgog i suabe na guinaisen mañglu'. Gigon siña un' huñgog i silensi na patte gi hinasaña, libianu un' pulu' otru siha asuntu gi menamu.

Fan man-atan sa' sige ha' adumididi' i federat ha amot i natibu ni direchoña siha. Hasan ta huñgog na guaha gi man-ma'gasta pu-metsige kume tagam 'nos kuantos aksion federal. Todu man-udu gi direchon natibu!

Estague' na finatsu mina' presisu na u guaha kabales na tinilaika pa'gu na Nobiembre!

Usun Saipan yan Pagan

Gaige gi papa' kontratan inakonfotman Covenant arglun usun tanu' Marianas ni militat gi hiyuñg haf' esta mafitma. Ha prebeniye cha-

lan haf' debi u chogue militat pot nesessidatña tat kumu plasan bat-kon aire Saipan yan lugat trening giya Pagan.

Huñgan guaha direchota prumesenta sentimento-ta gi haf' planun niha. Homlu' na eksisiu i para ta atsia fumama haf' sessu sentimento-ta. Tat ti siña manegosiu gi hiyuñg i kontrata. Mas probichosu para todus atmos banda yangin dibuenamente kada unu prumesanta planuña.

Presisu na u guaha inadiñgan entalu' man-ma-elihe yan publiku pot todus kinalamten interes militat guine. Gai benefisiu lokue' 'an sumauau i militat gi haf' para ta petsige siha na adelantu. Lau debi u fattu gi hilu' antau na inadiñgan yan negosiu pot para u guaha kinemprende deste tutuhon.

Probleman batkon aire

Ta fagcha'e fatsu na setbisuun batkon aire entalu' Guam, Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. I otru chinatsaga i ma-ribahan setbisuun ginen Japon. Gi todus atmos banda ilelegña i manehante na ti mauleg ganansiaña este na bisnis 'sino setbisuun guine.

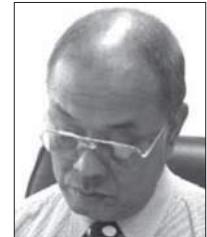
Ha aminasa hit este na asuntu pot hagas mafofondu salape' federat setbisuun Continental Airlines guine. Esta ayu na ayudu mana'para. Kumeke ilegña na debi setbisuun ruplanu u tachu gi dos adeñgña. Dispues mauleg ta komprende na bisnis este na modun setbisuun. Taya' trabiha mafatitinas ruplanu ni gumugupu ginen hanom tasi. Gaselina muna' kalalamten!

'An paire ganansiaña pues siempre mas bibu i setbisuun. Gigon

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



matompu' ya maliñgu dañkulu na ganansia naturat na siempre u atan yan pesa haf' para u chogue dispues. Mas inaminasa este na setbisuun ni abarambau na presiuun gasolina ginen mediu patte giya Uropa (Middle East). Makat na kontrariu sa' bisnis este i industrian batkon aire.

Fañuchanan

Mattu i tiempon fañuchanan 'nai naturatmiente sessu uchan. Pot fresku, hu offisiona malag i baranda manaitai gasetu gi internet, tinayuyot diariu, primet pusuelon kafe, sopplan chupa yan layeye pot para bai' huñgog i pañgpañg uchan gi atuf sin. Dinanche na sunidu katkuet ora.

Gigon nubladu ya chata'an, i paluman na'abag ti u fattu ume-suete gi troñkun lemon i gima'. Ni nosa yan otru siha paluma mandeskansa. Kontodu i manog man-atog gi papa' satgen i lanchu 'sino halom kasiyas niha.

I nuebu na linachog golai duru man-palapa gi halom uchan. Mientras tantos sige lokue' i lancheru siha ma-atan kau ti liminos tinanom niha 'an sinparat i ichan. Enfin mattu tiempun fañuchanan yan guiya lokue' este na biae 'nai lagse' finatton pagyu. Chegue haf' diariu che'chu' miyu lau rikononose ripot klima kada oga'yan uttimon ha'ane.

■ ■ ■

Guaha 'nai in' sisede gi kanton tasi uchan gi lemlem tautau sin homhum mapagahes? Tihu tuñgu' haf' na'aña este gi finu' Chamorro na pinneduñg uchan. Lau 'nos kuantos biae in' sisede yan peskadot siha (tropan lateria). Namatman i u'uchan sin mapagahes. I mapagahes kumikilili' halom gi tanu' i ichan. Solu guaha latatkilu' na eskaleran mapagahes ni yumute' i ichan. Ti komprendiyon ya tihu keke komprende disposision ginen hilu'.

■ ■ ■

Ti hu komprende inadiñgan finana'guen finu' Chamorro. Diberas, todus finu' Eñglis i sineyu' liñguahae. Hombre, ti mapot tana' a'ya hafa ta fafama yan i sasyan ni ta u'usa. Anog na ti humalom i totuiyón titanosta antes de ta lapbla sekosta. Dios mihi!

you are for or against racism. We should be promoting self-esteem among students and locals as they have more invested in the CNMI than those who are not from the CNMI like you and me! But you are damming the Democrats when they are the only one in the election who really wants to promote and help PSS and the very students you are putting down.

Unlike your race, I understand as an African-American that the CNMI still needs its first Chamorro and Carolinian scientists, astronauts, Nobel Prize winner, Supreme Court justice, Olympian, Miss USA and the list goes on and the only way we can get them is to promote locals, not degrade locals and cheer for CWs' citizenship to make it harder for locals like you are doing. FYI, I agree with Dr. Sablan about you even though we differ on other issues and how she is handling PSS and especially the CW transition issue! You did apologize to students but you really need to apologize to your race, Mr. DuBrall, because you have to be a real insult and embarrassment to your race as your twisted idealism and your racist stereotyping of locals, students, and things in the CNMI is ridiculous!

Finally, I pray for you that you will one day realize that complaining and injecting your racist superiority thought process is not going to solve anything. FYI, the Democrats will take PSS and NMC, our students and our entire society to the next level and I won't be yelling "hey" from the sidelines; I'll be helping them if voters are willing to elect them. So think about trying to stop being a facetious and racist fault-finder and become a real solution doer by getting active in the community as you seem to have the potential to truly be of benefit to society. Think about it, locals have feelings of self-esteem like you and they are far more invested in the CNMI than you or I will ever be. Respect these facts and you might even be appreciated instead of being scorned. Adios!

Ambrose M. Bennett

Kagman, Saipan

as possible, so let's get real about this, Gary. Finally, no other team has offered a complete transition plan and most people know that a failure to plan is a plan for failure, so what's your plan?

It took the help of the federal government and affirmative action to help blacks be on a level playing field in the job market and it will take similar help offered by the Democrats for locals who must compete with CWs especially when there is an obvious disparity in the experience and qualifications. So your grandchildren do need help with a level playing field to enter the job market, which is what the Democrats plan does.

You say that any just person that doesn't support a pathway to citizenship for CWs, after what the CNMI put most of them through, is an immoral person, devoid of empathy. If the majority of CWs had been abused like the Jews were, this assertion would be true but that is not even close to being the case as we are talking 13,000-plus CWs and the abuse cases only numbered in the hundred(s). You make it seem like all locals mistreated all of the CWs—not true. You and Kilili are also promoting citizenship like it is some kind of war reparation. Voters know citizenship for all CWs will threaten and even end the local political sovereignty over our government with the signing of a law. By all means compensate the CW victims but this overnight citizenship for all is a bit ridiculous—a point the Democrats will make known in Washington if elected!

You also don't speak for the CWs as all of them I talk to have no desire to become a U.S. citizen—they just want to stay here and work. So why are you and Kilili fighting for something that the majority don't even want? It is people like you and Kilili who want to play politics, judge, jury, executioner, and god that are making this difficult and voters were never asked by Kilili who made sure only the business community had a voice. If the CWs would have come forward and formally declared as a whole they only want to stay here and work, it would have been an easy sell in Congress for them to remain. But no, some CWs got greedy and wanted to manipulate our system for citizenship. I even warned the CWs to be careful what they ask for and now they are regretting their quest for federal intervention. But the real problem is people like you and Kilili who have them thinking the CNMI owes all of them citizenship when that was never the deal. There are people throughout the entire world who can claim the U.S. owes them citizenship for one reason or another just to get out of their country but they must all get in line and earn citizenship—it's not free! This is also about changing and creating new nationalities for CWs and race is not part of the equation, so stop the racism talk, Gary and Kilili, because most voters know the difference between nationality and ethnicity (race) issues.

I think the brain-dead stereotyping of all PSS students is ugly, horrific, insulting and dead wrong especially when it's not factual! You are taking your dissatisfaction with PSS out on our children and going too far, judging and degrading two entire races of students by name (Chamorros and Carolinians) when other ethnic groups also attend PSS, which means you are promoting an ugly form of racism inferiority you claim shouldn't exist. You don't have any proof of your ugly, brain-dead claim so slow down and make up your mind if

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph becoming southeast Tuesday night.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 82	▼ 78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 81	▼ 79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 81	▼ 79
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▲ 82	▼ 80
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲ 82	▼ 80
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲ 82	▼ 80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 82	▼ 80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 55	▼ 50
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 93	▼ 69
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲ 84	▼ 78
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 87	▼ 75
London	Rain	▲ 64	▼ 55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 89	▼ 67
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 75
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 67	▼ 45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 90	▼ 78
New York	Sunny	▲ 83	▼ 68
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 85	▼ 70
Paris	Showers	▲ 73	▼ 61
Pusan	Showers	▲ 78	▼ 69
Rome	Sunny	▲ 87	▼ 69
Salem	Sunny	▲ 95	▼ 62
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 68	▼ 58
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83	▼ 63
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 75	▼ 69
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 88	▼ 66

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:04 AM	6:34 PM	Today	6:18 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM	Wednesday	7:05 AM	7:28 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM	Thursday	7:52 AM	8:07 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM	Friday	8:40 AM	8:47 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM	Saturday	9:29 AM	9:28 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVERLOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 28, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7
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GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
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ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7
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ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
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SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via NRT
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PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 5, 7 via NRT
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Business

Using tax credits to pay premiums gets complicated

Using the federal income tax system to promote social policy goals is a time-honored strategy for policymakers of both political parties.

The nation's main anti-poverty program, the Earned Income Tax Credit, uses the tax system to supplement

the earnings of low-income families. Employer-provided health insurance is tax-free for workers and tax-deductible for companies, a huge boost for workplace coverage.

But some economists say that the chief purpose of any tax system should be revenue

Think strategically when looking to move up

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.



Q: My recent promotion has turned into a disaster. About three months ago, I was made an assistant manager at the fast food restaurant where I worked. Almost immediately, I was told that I was being transferred to another location because the manager there needed help. However, "Mark" has made it clear from the beginning that he doesn't want me around.

Whenever Mark is in the store, he watches me like a hawk. If he has to go out, he checks the camera footage when he returns. Although he is supposed to be helping me learn, Mark refuses to teach me anything about the business. Instead of delegating management tasks, he has me cooking or running the drive-thru.

I want to be a good assistant manager, but Mark is obviously trying to hold me back. All the employees are afraid of him because he often gets angry and makes belittling remarks. I'm beginning to feel that I've been set up to fail. Is there anything I can do about this?

A: When you were told Mark "needed help," you undoubtedly assumed that the store was understaffed. But given his tyrannical management style, this comment might have an entirely different meaning. Mark believing management is auditioning you as his replacement would certainly explain his defensive and territorial behavior.

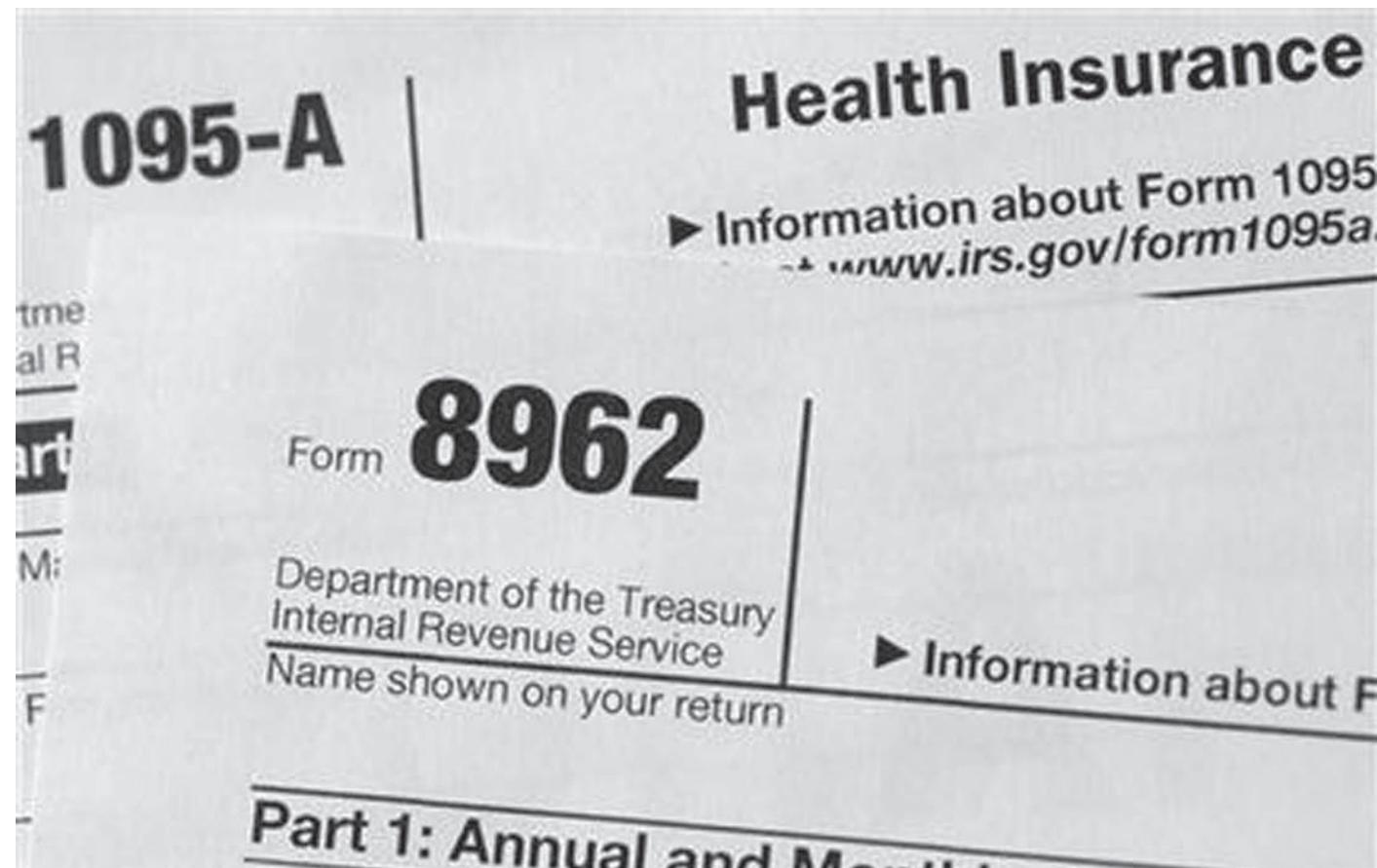
To manage this situation effectively, you will need to find an outside ally. If you have a trustworthy human resources manager, request a confidential discussion and ask for some guidance in dealing with Mark. But if you feel uneasy about the HR manager's discretion or judgment, focus instead on your need for a development plan.

As a new assistant manager in an unfamiliar location, you can reasonably solicit HR assistance in conquering the learning curve. That might involve creating specific training goals, reviewing them with Mark, and providing periodic follow-up. Implementing this strategy will not only accelerate your progress, but also ensure that Mark receives some much-needed oversight.

Q: I have a question about the ethics of job searching. I currently work in a small clothing store and would like to pursue other jobs in the fashion industry. Recently, I attended a conference with my boss and met a number of our suppliers. Although I would like to explore opportunities with them, I'm not sure if that would be ethical, considering that my boss invited me to the conference. What do you think about this?

A: While your concern for ethics is truly commendable, it is generally understood that contacts made through work may lead to other opportunities. For that reason, networking with suppliers would not violate any ethical boundaries.

Practically speaking, however, managers often take it personally when they hear that someone may be planning to jump ship. So if you discuss job possibilities with your new acquaintances, ask them to keep those conversations confidential. Should you receive an actual offer which requires a reference check, that would be the time to inform your boss.



This Aug. 21, 2014, photo shows health care tax forms 8962 and 1095-A, in Washington. AP

collection, and using income taxes to advance social policy makes the code needlessly complicated, while also distorting incentives to work, save and invest.

Some pros and cons of using the tax system to help people pay premiums for private health insurance, as the Affordable Care Act does:

PRO: Could build support

for the health overhaul because tax credits have greater political popularity than traditional government spending programs.

CON: Complicates tax filing for many lower-to-middle income people, who may not be able to afford tax-preparation services.

PRO: Avoids the social stigma of Medicaid, the safe-

ty-net health care program for low-income people. (Separately, the health law also expands Medicaid.)

CON: Requires people who get the tax credits to accurately project their incomes for the coming year, a real challenge for those who may not have stable employment.

PRO: The Internal Revenue Service has a lot of ex-

perience administering tax provisions that serve a social policy agenda, from mortgage deductions for home ownership to child care tax credits that help families.

CON: It constitutes mission creep for the IRS, straining the agency when an estimated \$385 billion a year in taxes owed, or more, goes uncollected. (AP)

Iceland lowers aviation alert level from volcano

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP)— Iceland lowered its aviation alert level to orange from red Sunday, saying there was no sign of an imminent eruption at the Bardarbunga volcano. And scientists at the Icelandic Meteorological Office said their announcement Saturday that the volcano had experienced a sub-glacial eruption was wrong.

But the office cautioned in a statement that seismic activity at the volcano, which has been hit by thousands of earthquakes over the past week, was not slowing, and an eruption remained a possibility in

coming days.

Two earthquakes measuring over 5 in magnitude—the biggest yet—shook the volcano beneath Iceland's vast Vatnajokull glacier early Sunday. The Met Office recorded earthquakes of 5.3 and 5.1 in the early hours.

Iceland had raised the alert for aviation Saturday to red, the highest level on a five-point scale, warning that an ash-emitting eruption could be imminent.

An orange alert indicates "heightened or escalating unrest with increased potential of eruption."

After the alert was lowered, aviation authorities lifted a no-fly zone that had been imposed for 100 nautical miles by 140 nautical miles (185 kilometers by 260 kilometers) around the volcano.

A 2010 eruption of Iceland's Eyjafjallajokul volcano caused a week of international aviation chaos, with more than 100,000 flights cancelled. Aviation officials closed Europe's air space for five days out of fear that volcanic ash could harm jet engines.

Any new eruption would be likely to be less disruptive. European aviation authorities have

changed their policy, giving airlines detailed information about the location and density of ash clouds but leaving decisions to airlines and national regulators.

"Even if there were to be a major eruption, it would not necessarily produce a high ash column, so the likelihood of interruption of trans-Atlantic and European air travel remains low," said Open University geoscientist David Rothery.

Britain's National Air Traffic Service said it was monitoring what it called a "dynamic situation" but was expecting normal operations Sunday.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Survey: US gas prices down 4 cents per gallon

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average U.S. price of gasoline has dipped 4 cents per gallon in the past two weeks, and prices in California have fallen 5 cents in the same time period. According to the Lundberg Survey released Sunday, the average nationwide price for a gallon of regular is now \$3.48—8 cents below what it was a year ago. The average price for midgrade gasoline is \$3.69, and

premium is \$3.84. Of cities surveyed in the Lower 48 states, the lowest price, \$3.11, was in Jackson, Mississippi. San Francisco had the highest price at \$3.92. In California, prices for a gallon of regular dropped 5 cents to \$3.81. The lowest price, \$3.66, was in Bakersfield. The average U.S. price of gasoline dropped 23 cents during the past nine weeks.

Burger King in talks to buy Tim Hortons

MIAMI (AP)—Burger King is in talks to buy Tim Hortons and form a new publicly listed company based in Canada. The two fast-food companies announced Sunday that Burger King majority owner 3G Capital would continue to own the majority of shares of the new company, with the remainder held by shareholders of Tim Hortons and Burger King. The companies say Miami-based Burger King Worldwide Inc. and Ontario-

based Tim Hortons Inc. would continue to operate as separate brands but would share corporate services. The Wall Street Journal first reported the talks and that the companies say there's no assurance a deal will happen. The new company would have 18,000 restaurants in 100 countries with about \$22 billion in sales. The companies say that would make it the world's third-largest fast-food restaurant company.

Nation

Strong California quake shakes famed wine country

NAPA, Calif. (AP)—The San Francisco Bay Area's strongest earthquake in 25 years struck the heart of California's wine country early Sunday, igniting gas-fed fires, damaging some of the region's famed wineries and historic buildings, and sending dozens of people to hospitals.

The magnitude-6.0 quake, centered near the city of Napa, an oasis of Victorian-era buildings nestled in the vineyard-studded hills of northern California, ruptured water mains and gas lines, hampering firefighters' efforts to extinguish the blazes that broke out after the temblor struck at 3:20 a.m.

Dazed residents who had run out of their homes in the dark and were too fearful of aftershocks to go back to bed wandered through Napa's historic downtown, where boulder-sized chunks of rubble and broken glass littered the streets. Dozens of homes and buildings across the Napa Valley were left unsafe to occupy, including an old county courthouse, where a 10-foot wide hole opened a view of the offices inside.

College student Eduardo Rivera said the home he shares with six relatives shook so



AP
Nina Quidit cleans up the Dollar Plus and Party Supplies Store in American Canyon Calif. after an earthquake on Sunday Aug. 24, 2014.

violently that he kept getting knocked back into his bed as he tried to flee.

"When I woke up, my mom was screaming, and the sound from the earthquake was greater

than my mom's screams," the 20-year-old Rivera said.

Gov. Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency for southern Napa County, directing state agencies to respond with equip-

ment and personnel. President Barack Obama was briefed on the earthquake, the White House said, and federal officials were in touch with state and local emergency responders.

The tremor struck about six miles south of Napa and lasted 10 to 20 seconds, according to the United States Geological Survey. It was the largest to shake the San Francisco Bay

Michael Brown called 'little kid in big body'

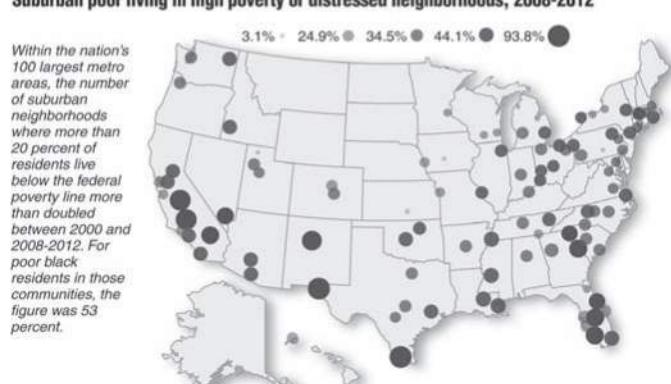
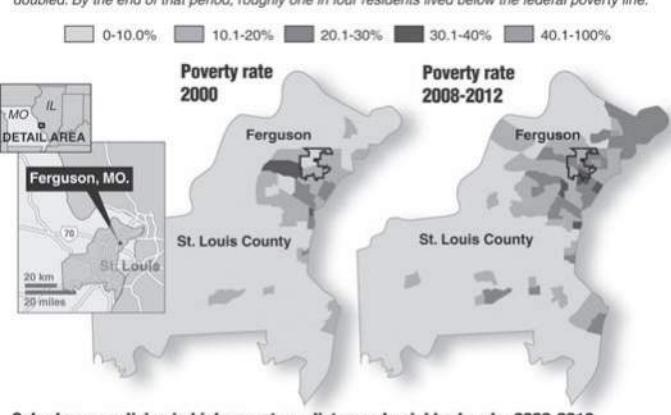
FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—Michael Brown Jr. was on the verge of starting college, eager to launch himself into the adult world. Instead, on Monday he'll be mourned at his funeral, more than two weeks after his fatal shooting by a white police officer—an act that ignited days of violent protests and reawakened racial tensions that still linger in

the nation.

Brown, who was unarmed when he was killed, became an instant symbol of racial injustice as protesters flooded into the streets after his death. Civil rights leaders said the shooting in this predominantly black St. Louis suburb revived long simmering questions about police treatment of minorities across the country.

Ferguson like many struggling towns nationwide

Ferguson, Mo., has been home to dramatic economic changes in recent years. The city's unemployment rate rose from less than 5 percent in 2000 to over 13 percent in 2010-12. Amid these changes, poverty skyrocketed. Between 2000 and 2012, Ferguson's poor population doubled. By the end of that period, roughly one in four residents lived below the federal poverty line.



During more than a week of demonstrations—marred by Molotov cocktails and billowing clouds of tear gas—Brown's name and face were frequently visible on T-shirts and protest signs. Some also chanted: "I AM MIKE BROWN!"

Even as the details of what happened during the Aug. 9 confrontation remain unclear, a portrait has emerged of the 18-year-old Brown.

Family and friends recall a young man built like a lineman—6-foot-3, nearly 300 pounds—with a gentle, joking manner. An aspiring rapper who dubbed himself "Big Mike." A fan of computer games, Lil Wayne, Drake, the movie, "Grown Ups 2" and the TV show "Family Guy." A kid who was good at fixing things. A struggling student who buckled down to finish his courses, don his green graduation gown with red sash and cross the stage in August to pick up his diploma.

"My fondest memory of Mike is seeing a big kid coming in with a smile on his face, his headphones on and a big can of iced tea ... and say, 'Hey, Coach K, What's going on? ... What do you need me to do this morning?'" recalls Charlie Kennedy, a Normandy High School health and physical education teacher. He says Brown was the kind of kid who'd hold court with "four or five kids around him, cutting up and having a good time."

ST. LOUIS (AP)—The father of a black 18-year-old shot to death by a white police officer in Ferguson pleaded Sunday for a "day of silence" as he lays his son to rest Monday.

"Tomorrow all I want is peace," Michael Brown Sr. told hundreds of people in St. Louis' largest city park during brief remarks at a festival that promotes peace over violence. "That's all I ask."

The more than two weeks since Michael Brown's death have been marked by nightly protests, some violent and chaotic, although tensions have eased in recent days.

Brown Sr. told the crowd that he and his son's mother appreciated

the love and support they've received from the community. The Rev. Al Sharpton, who will speak at the funeral, echoed his request for peace.

"We don't want anything tomorrow to happen that might defile the name of Michael Brown," Sharpton said. "This is not about our rage tomorrow. It's about the legacy and memory of his son."

Lesley McSpadden, Michael Brown's mother, appeared on stage with Sharpton, who told the crowd that McSpadden and her family saw Brown's body for the first time today since the day of the shooting.

After McSpadden took the microphone, she broke down

Bishop: Slain US journalist Foley opened our eyes

ROCHESTER, N.H. (AP)—Slain U.S. journalist James Foley was living his faith by bringing images to the world of people suffering from war and oppressive regimes, a Roman Catholic bishop said Sunday at a Mass in his honor.

Bishop Peter Libasci said even after Foley was captured for the first time in Libya in 2011, he "went back again that we might open our eyes."

The Mass was attended by Foley's parents, John and Diane Foley, and hundreds of others in their hometown of Rochester, New Hampshire. Afterward, Libasci read aloud a letter from

the Vatican extending the condolences of Pope Francis.

"Thank you for loving Jim," Diane Foley told the crowd after the Mass.

The crowd filled every pew and people stood three deep at the back of the church and along both sides of it. Gov. Maggie Hassan, along with U.S. Sens. Jeanne Shaheen and Kelly Ayotte, attended the Mass.

Foley was kidnapped on Thanksgiving Day 2012 while covering the Syrian uprising. The Islamic State group posted a Web video Tuesday showing his killing and said it was in retaliation for U.S. airstrikes in

Area since the magnitude-6.9 Loma Prieta quake struck in 1989, collapsing part of the Bay Bridge roadway and killing more than 60 people, most when an Oakland freeway collapsed.

Queen of the Valley Medical Center in Napa, where an outdoor triage tent was set up to handle the influx, reported treating 172 people in the emergency room, although hospital officials could not say how many of them were there for bruises and cuts suffered in the quake and how many for more routine injuries and illnesses.

Twelve people were admitted for broken bones, heart attacks and other problems directly related to the earthquake, including an adult who remained in critical condition on Sunday night and a 13-year-old boy.

The teen was hit by flying debris from a collapsed fireplace and had to be airlifted to the children's hospital at the University of California Davis hospital for a neurological evaluation. His condition was listed as serious, hospital spokeswoman Phyllis Brown said.

Napa Fire Department Operations Chief John Callanan said the city had exhausted its

Dad of 18-year-old shot by officer asks for peace

and covered her face with her left hand. The crowd began to chant, "We love you. We love you. We love you." McSpadden composed herself for a moment and softly said, "Thank you. Thank you, everybody. Thank you."

Peace Fest 2014 was already in the works before Officer Darren Wilson shot Brown Aug. 9 in a St. Louis suburb, but it took on new resonance in the aftermath.

The parents of slain Florida teen Trayvon Martin also spoke, urging the crowd to channel its anger into action by pushing to strengthen families and better educate youth and expressing support for the Brown family and the people of the St. Louis area.

Libasci invoked the prayer of St. Francis, which begins, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace," to implore the gathered not to hate but to heal.

"It is in giving that we receive," he recited. "It is in pardoning that we are pardoned. It is in dying that we are born to eternal life. To these words, I think we can say, 'Yes, I wish we could do that.' It is not beyond our capability. It is not impossible. Our Lord lived it. Our most blessed Mother lived it. Many saints have lived it. James lived it."

Asia

Thai junta leader assumes prime minister post

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's junta leader, who seized power in a military coup three months ago, officially assumed his new post as prime minister on Monday following an endorsement from the country's monarch.

During a ceremony in Bangkok, Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha accepted a written royal command issued by King Bhumibol Adulyadej certifying his appointment as the country's 29th premier. Bhumibol, who is 86 and in poor health, was not present at the ceremony.

Thailand's junta-appointed legislature voted overwhelmingly last week to name the 60-year-old army chief to the new post. He was the only candidate.

Prayuth is due to retire from the military next month and will hold both jobs until he does so.

On May 22, Prayuth oversaw a coup in which the military toppled Thailand's elected civilian government. Analysts say his new post cements the military's control of government.

The move was the latest in a series of moves by the junta to consolidate power on its own terms. In July, the military adopted a temporary 48-article constitution and appointed the legislature.

Prayuth, who is expected to



AP

Macau police arrest 5 over informal democracy poll

HONG KONG (AP)—Police in the global gambling hub of Macau have arrested five people involved with an informal poll to measure support for direct elections of the Chinese-controlled city's leader.

The five were arrested Sunday after activists kicked off the weeklong unofficial referendum inspired by a similar vote in June in nearby Hong Kong that Beijing denounced as an illegal farce but which drew nearly 800,000 votes.

The arrests are "a serious violation of human rights," said Jason Chao, president of Open Macau Society, one of three groups organizing the poll. "You can feel that how the government fears the result

of the referendum."

Chao said he and four others were waiting Monday for authorities to decide whether to prosecute them after being arrested for disobeying government orders not to collect residents' personal data.

Macau's government privacy watchdog had warned organizers they were violating the privacy law by collecting identity card data from voters.

Macau was a former Portuguese colony before coming back under China's control in 1999, two years after Beijing regained Hong Kong from Britain. The two cities are specially administered regions of China that have broad say over their own af-

fairs under the principle of "one country, two systems" but whose leaders are chosen by small committees of Beijing-friendly elites.

A 400-person election committee is widely expected to elect the former Portuguese colony's current leader to another five-year term on Aug. 31, the same day that referendum organizers plan to release results of the poll.

Public discontent is rising in Macau, the only place in China where casinos are legal, after a decade-long casino boom that's supercharged the economy but also widened inequality, strained resources and inflated housing prices in the city of about 600,000.

name his Cabinet next month, has said elections could be held in 2015.

Prayuth has said the army had to stage the coup to end half a year of political deadlock between protesters and the government, and to stop sporadic protest-related violence that had killed dozens of people and wounded hundreds more. While stability has been restored, it has come at a steep price: Thailand's democratic institutions have been entirely dismantled, and the country's authoritarian

rulers have crushed all dissent.

Last week, Human Rights Watch issued a statement criticizing the deterioration of human rights in the country.

"Since the May coup, the generals have tightened rather than relaxed their grip on power," said Brad Adams, Asia director at Human Rights Watch. "Instead of the promised path back to democracy through free and fair elections, Thailand's military seems to be opting for a road to dictatorship."

"As both prime minister and

Japan PM visits slide site, as complaints swirl

TOKYO (AP)—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited Hiroshima on Monday as rescuers expanded their search for dozens still missing from landslides around the western Japanese city that killed at least 50 people.

Rain showers were raising risks of more slides and hampering the search effort, and also triggering slides in other parts of Japan. The Fire and Disaster Management Agency said Monday that two women died after a hill collapsed on their home on the northern island of Hokkaido on Sunday.

In Hiroshima, 38 people were still missing after rain-soaked slopes swept through several neighborhoods on Aug. 20. Authorities announced the names of those believed missing on Monday, appealing for information



Source: AP Graphic: Staff

© 2014 MCT

tion, as the search was extended for bodies that might have been swept further away as the slides rushed through.

About 3,300 rescue workers were combing through debris with picks, shovels and chain saws.

Abe postponed an inspection

In this photo released by Thai Spokesman Office, Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha speaks after he accepted a written royal command issued by King Bhumibol Adulyadej certifying his appointment as the country's 29th premier in Bangkok, Thailand Monday, Aug. 25, 2014.

junta leader, Gen. Prayuth can wield broad power without accountability," Adams said. "This marks a dark day for human rights and the future of democracy in Thailand."

visit Sunday to avoid interfering with disaster relief operations, but met with a disaster task force Monday in Hiroshima.

"We want to restore peoples' safe, normal lives as soon as possible," he said.

Abe cut short his summer holiday but has drawn some criticism for briefly continuing a golf game after hearing of the disaster.

Landslides are a frequent occurrence in densely populated, mountainous Japan, and persisting unstable weather conditions continued to pose a threat in many areas, including Hiroshima, where rescue workers were occasionally suspending work in some places due to fears of further collapses on steep hillsides.

Authorities are considering setting up an early warning system for landslides, reports said Monday.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Vietnam sends envoy to China to smooth tensions

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Vietnam is sending a senior Communist party official to China this week to try to rebuild relations badly hit by Beijing's decision to deploy an oil rig in waters claimed by Hanoi in May. A statement Monday said the envoy was being dispatched after an invitation from the Chinese Communist party. The movement of the rig by China triggered a furious reaction in Hanoi and led to speculation the secretive government might be reconsidering its relationship with Beijing, perhaps favoring a tilt to the United States. The statement said visit is aimed at ensuring there won't be a repeat of the oil rig incident and to "promote the healthy, stable and

long-term development of relations be-

10 dead in India temple stampede, police say

NEW DELHI (AP)—A pre-dawn stampede killed 10 people Monday at a Hindu temple in central India, a top police official said. The stampede happened in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh after a live electrical wire shocked a woman, setting off a panic, said S.R. Yadav, Satna's deputy superintendent of police. The devotees were marking Somvati Amavasya, a holy day in honor of Lord Shiva. Deadly stampedes are fairly common during India's often-chaotic religious gatherings and festivals, where large crowds gather in small areas with few safety or crowd control measures.

World

Rebels parade captured Ukrainian soldiers in east

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)—To shouts of “Fascists!” and “Hang them from a tree!” captured Ukrainian soldiers were paraded through the streets of the rebel stronghold of Donetsk on Sunday as bystanders pelted them with eggs, water bottles and tomatoes.

The spectacle of the bruised and filthy soldiers being marched hands bound and surrounded by gun-toting pro-Russian insurgents came as Ukrainians in Kiev celebrated their country’s independence from the Soviet Union—a stark display of the growing divisions between east and west.

While support and mobilization for Kiev’s campaign against the separatists has grown in many parts of the country, resentments fester in much of the east, where civilian casualties and shelling have become a part of daily life.

Illustrating the divisions, an ostentatious procession of tanks and weaponry rumbled through downtown Kiev to mark Ukraine’s 23rd anniversary of independence from Moscow—a highly publicized event accompanied by speeches and a vow by President Petro Poroshenko to boost defense spending to defeat the rebels.

In Donetsk, thousands gathered in the main square as the insurgents staged their own spectacle mocking the national army. To jeers and catcalls, dozens of captive soldiers, some wearing tattered Ukrainian military uni-



Pro-Russian rebels escort prisoners of war from the Ukrainian army in a central square in Donetsk, eastern Ukraine, Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014. AP

forms and some in torn and dirty civilian clothing, were forced to march past as nationalistic Russian songs blared from loudspeakers. They were flanked by rebels pointing bayoneted rifles.

One visibly agitated man yelled slurs as he held an infant in one arm. “Hang the fascists from a tree!” one woman shout-

ed as other women rushed at the prisoners, trying to kick and slap them.

Two water trucks followed the captives, hosing down the road in a move apparently meant to cleanse the pavement where the Ukrainian soldiers had passed. The image had historical parallels as well: In

1944, Red Army soldiers paraded tens of thousands of German prisoners of war through the streets of Moscow.

The top rebel commander sent a mocking message to the Ukrainian government.

“Kiev said that on the 24th, on the Independence Day of Ukraine, they would have a pa-

rade. Indeed, they did march in Donetsk, although it wasn’t a parade,” top rebel commander Alexander Zakharchenko said.

“Soldiers of the armed forces of Kiev walked along the main streets of Donetsk. What Poroshenko planned has taken place.”

Human Rights Watch said parading the Ukrainian soldiers was

a violation of humanitarian law.

Rachel Denber of the New York-based rights group cited an article of the Geneva Conventions that prohibits “outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment” of captives of armed conflicts.

This parade is a clear violation of that absolute prohibition, and may be considered a war crime, she said.

On Sunday, rebels put several fire-blackened, shrapnel-shredded Ukrainian military vehicles on display in Donetsk’s main square, where supporters posed for photos in front of one of the destroyed tanks. One onlooker grabbed a Ukrainian flag from the wreckage of one tank and threw it to the ground. Several others trampled on it, wiping their feet and spitting.

“Today is the so-called independence day of what was Ukraine. And look what has happened to their equipment. This is what has become of Ukraine!” shouted a pro-Russian rebel fighter who identified herself by her battle name, Nursa, pointing at the remains of a Ukrainian troop transport.

Alexander, a 40-year-old businessman from Donetsk who declined to give his surname, said the Ukrainian flag had no place in the city.

“I feel this is no place for this flag. The great achievement here is that people can see it in the state that it deserves to be in,” he said.

Jihadis capture major Syrian air base in northeast

BEIRUT (AP)—Islamic State fighters captured a major military air base in northeastern Syria on Sunday, eliminating the last government-held outpost in a province otherwise dominated by the jihadi group, activists and state media said.

Tabqa airfield—home to several warplane squadrons, helicopters, tanks, artillery, and ammunition bunkers—is the third military base in the area to fall to the extremists since last month. Those victories are part of the Islamic State group’s aggressive push to consolidate its hold on northern and eastern

provinces, while also expanding the boundaries of its self-styled caliphate straddling the Syria-Iraq border.

The jihadis launched their long-anticipated offensive last week to seize the sprawling Tabqa facility, located some 45 kilometers (25 miles) from the extremists’ stronghold in the city of Raqqa along the Euphrates River.

After several failed efforts to breach the walls in recent days, Islamic State fighters managed to punch through and storm the air base Sunday, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for

Human Rights said. Government warplanes carried out waves of airstrikes to try to beat back the attack, but those ultimately proved unable to stem the assault.

“Some of the Syrian regime troops pulled out, and now the Islamic State is in full control of Tabqa,” said Observatory director Rami Abdurrahman. “This makes Raqqa province the first to fully fall out of government hands.”

Another activist group, the Local Coordination Committees, also said the extremist group was in control of Tabqa.

The SANA state news agency confirmed that the government had lost the air base, saying troops “are successfully reassembling after evacuating the airport.” It said that the military was still “striking terrorist groups, inflicting heavy losses on them.”

The government had made significant investments in both weapons and manpower to try to hold onto Tabqa, making its fall both a symbolic and a strategic blow.

Islamic State fighters had been closing in on the base for weeks. When the fight finally came, it was bloody.

WORLD BRIEFS

Israel leader tries to link Hamas, Iraq extremists

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel’s prime minister is trying to capitalize on the gruesome video of an American journalist’s beheading by the Islamic State extremist group, saying Hamas is an equally vicious foe as he tries to rally international support in Israel’s war in the Gaza Strip. But the comparisons between Hamas and Islamic State are being met with reservations by Israel’s allies and enemies alike. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu always has prided himself on his ability to attract media attention. Netanyahu, who grew up in the U.S. and speaks fluent English, often uses catchy quips, props or visual aids in public speeches or briefings to journalists. A day after the Islamic State group, also known as ISIS, posted the video of journalist James Foley’s killing, Netanyahu debuted his latest catchphrase: “Hamas is ISIS. ISIS is Hamas.” He voiced the slogan at a news conference, on Twitter and even at his weekly Cabinet meeting Sunday.

Palestinian president prepares new UN appeal

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—Aides to the Palestinian president said Sunday that he will soon appeal to the international community to set a deadline for Israel to end its occupation of lands captured in the 1967 Mideast war and make way for an independent Palestinian state. President Mahmoud Abbas was expected to unveil his proposal as part of a “day after” plan following the current war in the Gaza Strip, likely at a meeting of the Palestinian leadership on Tuesday, said the aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the plan has not yet been made public. Abbas is plotting his move even as the fighting continues to rage. Israel’s prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, warned Sunday that the 7-week-old military campaign in Gaza would stretch into September—despite growing anger among residents in southern Israel over the military’s inability to halt rocket and mortar fire out of the Palestinian territory following the death of a 4-year-old Israeli boy over the weekend.

Minister: 2 people have died of Ebola in Congo

KINSHASA, Congo (AP)—Two Ebola-related deaths have been confirmed in Congo, the country’s health minister said Sunday, though local officials believe the cases are unrelated to the outbreak in West Africa that has killed more than 1,400 people.

Eight samples were taken from Djera, located in the Boende region of Congo’s northwest Equateur province, and two of

them came back positive, Felix Kabange Numbi said on state television Sunday.

Congolese officials believe Ebola has killed 13 people in the region, including five health workers, Kabange said.

He said 11 people were sick and in isolation and that 80 contacts were being traced.

“This epidemic has nothing to do with the one in West Africa,” Kabange said.

This is the seventh outbreak of Ebola in Congo. The disease was first discovered there in 1976.

“The experience acquired during the six previous epidemics of Ebola will contribute to the containing of this illness,” Kabange said.

Boende is the region where the World Health Organization said an outbreak of hemorrhagic gastroenteritis has killed 70 people in recent weeks.

The WHO said last week those deaths were not Ebola-related, but WHO spokesman Gregory Hartl said by email Sunday that the information was the result of “miscommunication from the field.”

Hartl said on Twitter that samples tested at a national laboratory were positive for Ebola and that the results of confirmation tests from a laboratory in Gabon would likely come back Monday.

Focus

By TAMARA LUSH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAKE WALES, Fla. (AP)—The tourists stream to Florida in their cars, intent on a week at Disney or a sugar-sand seashore or a nonstop party on South Beach. Road weary and thirsty, they pull over at one of the state's five official welcome centers. They walk inside, and then they look up.

"The best start under the sun," reads a big sign. "FLORIDA ORANGE JUICE."

Behind a counter, a woman sits with a stack of paper cups. "Welcome to Florida," she says with a big smile. "Orange or grapefruit?"

The juice is cold and sweet. It tastes like the Sunshine State.

Once, emerald green trees bursting with citrus carpeted more than half of the state, from the northern reaches of Jacksonville and the parks of Orlando to the Miami coastline. Oranges, especially, have long been synonymous with the magic of Florida.

Think back to those old advertisements touting OJ as a vitamin-filled glass of goodness. The dream of Florida as a tropical vacation paradise was cemented in Americans' minds through such promotions. Today, the orange adorns the state license plate. There is even a county called Citrus.

The people behind the groves have been among Florida's most influential. The University of Florida's famed football stadium was named after an orange magnate, and at least three of the state's governors were citrus growers.

Throughout the decades, citrus has stood strong—through freezes, hurricanes and rampant development.

But now the \$9 billion industry is facing its biggest threat yet, putting at risk the state's economy and very identity. Blame a mottled brown bug no bigger than a pencil eraser and a disease called "the yellow dragon."

Have you seen those commercials that begin with a farmer's leather-gloved hands opening to reveal a blossom that ripens into an orange? The ads are for Florida's Natural juice, and Ellis Hunt Jr. is the man behind the brand.

Tall and thin, wearing jeans and a plain white button-down with a Florida-honed tan on his 61-year-old face, Hunt could star in one of those spots. His family owns 5,000-plus acres of groves and is part of the co-op that contributes to Florida's Natural—the third-largest juice brand in the country, behind Pepsi's Tropicana and Coca-Cola's Minute Maid.

Hunt's grandfather started the company in 1922, and ever since Hunt could walk, his life was surrounded by oranges. He followed his father into the business, and now serves on the state's powerful citrus commission. He jokes that the back-breaking task of picking fruit was what inspired him to attend college, so he could take a rest from hard work.

This summer, Hunt's has been driving his truck through his groves in Polk County, the state's top citrus-producing region, and what he sees is uncertainty. Many of his trees look beautiful, acres upon acres of vibrant green. But trouble can be spotted if you look closely.

Hunt stops his truck, climbs out and points to a tree's limb. Some leaves have turned yellow, and the hue is



will allow existing trees to survive, and a long-term solution—possibly three to five years away—to develop a greening resistant tree.

Experiments study everything from how fast the psyllid flies to how it's attracted to the odor of an infected tree. One French researcher has tied the bug to a string and a post to measure its flight patterns. Another study, underway at an organic grower's groves, assesses whether tiny wasps can be released en masse to gobble the bad bugs.

For three decades, horticulture professors Jude Grosser and Fred Gmitter have worked at the center, mostly studying citrus breeding and genetics. The two men are rock stars in the citrus world because of their vast knowledge. Now, much of their focus is on greening.

Grosser and Gmitter have discovered that a certain variety of orange trees grafted onto one particular kind of rootstock appears to be more tolerant to greening. Those trees could play a big role in managing the disease down the road.

"A lot of people are looking for miracle cures, but the answer for greening will be a number of different pieces," Grosser said.

The pair want a solution and fast. They've spent their careers developing different fruit varieties, such as easy-to-peel and extra-juicy oranges. Some varieties are nearly ready for release and sales, they said, but most growers don't want to take a chance on anything new until greening is gone.

"We need to give the tree a chance to beat the disease," said Grosser. "How can we do that?"

Since 2008, \$90 million has been spent in Florida on greening research, much of that money raised by growers from a tax they pay on every box of citrus that's picked. And the 2014 federal farm bill included \$125 million for greening research.

Growers are also taking matters into their own hands. Some have tried putting giant tents over their trees and using the sun's heat in an attempt to kill the greening.

Rick Kress, president of Southern Gardens Citrus, one of the state's largest juice suppliers, has hired a private team of researchers to work on genetically engineering a greening resistant tree with the DNA from spinach.

Kress knows that introducing juice from a genetically modified orange would create another hurdle because of the public's perception of such foods. But the alternative—no juice at all—is unthinkable.

"Irrespective of the challenges, Florida orange juice is not going to go away," he said. "Because Florida had the disease first, we're on the forefront of dealing with it and finding a solution that will ultimately benefit the entire United States citrus industry."

California growers, who raise the majority of the U.S.'s fresh citrus crop, are also petrified of greening. The psyllid has been found in various places around that state, and greening was detected in one residential tree in Los Angeles in 2012. California researchers are doing their own experiments and piggybacking on the Florida research. In Texas, greening has struck fewer than 200 commercial trees, and the disease has not been spotted in Arizona.

Invasive insect threatens iconic Florida citrus

spreading in waves. He guesses that 75 percent of his groves are infected.

In China, where it was first found, the disease is called huanglongbing. Translation: "the yellow dragon." In Florida, it's known simply as "greening."

It arrived here via a tiny invasive bug called the Asian Citrus Psyllid, which carries bacteria that are left behind when the psyllid feeds on a citrus tree's leaves. The tree continues to produce useable fruit, but eventually disease clogs the vascular system. Fruit falls, and the tree slowly dies.

The psyllid isn't native to Florida but is believed to have arrived from someone who perhaps unknowingly brought a slip of a tree from Asia. The bug was first spotted in the state in 1998, and some think it then spread on the winds of hurricanes. Greening showed up in 2005. There is no cure, and no country has ever successfully eradicated it.

All of that has Florida's growers in a frenzy to find a way to stop the disease.

"It feels like you're in a war," Hunt said.

Hunt estimates he's spending some \$2,000 an acre on production costs, a 100 percent increase from 10 years ago. Much of that goes toward nutrients and spraying to try to control the psyllids. The trees that don't survive are pulled out of the earth and tossed onto a giant bonfire.

Nearly all of the state's citrus groves are affected in varying degrees by greening, and researchers, growers and experts agree that the crisis has already started to compro-

mise Florida's prominence as a citrus-growing region. Florida is second in the world, behind Brazil, in growing juice oranges, producing about 80 percent of juice in the U.S.

This past growing season, the state produced 104 million boxes of oranges, which comprise the bulk of Florida's overall citrus crop. In 2003, two years before greening was discovered and prior to several devastating hurricanes, 243 million boxes were picked.

"This affects the whole state. The economic impact. The landscape. The iconic image of Florida and how it has drawn people here to smell the orange blossoms in the spring and look forward to that Christmas gift of fresh Florida citrus," said state Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam, whose family has grown oranges in Polk County since the early 1900s. "It will have a ripple effect throughout the economy if we can't get our arms around this disease."

Experts say that if a solution isn't found, Florida's entire citrus industry could collapse. Officials worry that some packinghouses and processing plants will have to close because of a lack of fruit. That could send the industry, with its 75,000 jobs, tumbling.

Compounding the problem is the timing of it: The disease coincides with an increase in foreign competition and a decrease in juice consumption as health-conscious consumers count carbs. In July, U.S. orange juice retail sales fell to the lowest level in 12 years for a second consecutive four-week period.

"We're in the fight of our life," said Michael Sparks, the CEO of Florida Citrus Mutual, the marketing and lobbying arm for the state's citrus growers.

Already, some are losing.

In the early 1980s, farmer Richard Skinner and his wife took over a small grove near Tampa planted nearly 100 years ago by his wife's grandfather. For years they thrived, selling boxes of oranges to large juice companies to augment their roadside business.

When greening struck his grove in 2011, Skinner realized he couldn't sustain the cost of chemicals and nutrients needed to keep the trees alive. Within two years, 2,600 trees were cut down—and the century-old grove was gone.

"We cried," said Skinner, who is 74 years old and doesn't look like a man who cries easily.

The war room in the fight against the yellow dragon is found in Lake Alfred, 30 miles southwest of Walt Disney World, in a nondescript cluster of buildings at the University of Florida's Citrus Research and Education Center.

There, some of the world's top citrus researchers—from the U.S., China, Brazil, India—slouch over microscopes and peer into makeshift greenhouses, hoping to unlock the puzzle that is greening. They talk about nucleotides and genomes like regular folks order a sandwich.

They understand clearly that there is no magic bullet—an injection or spray, for example—to cure the disease instantly. So they concentrate on two things: a short-term workaround that

Overdrive

By TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Cut-rate Kias once sang solely in the key of cheap.

Of course, that was long before massive design changes throughout Kia, before the current Optima rose to become one of the most stylish sedans in the midsize segment and way before 100,000-mile warranties made some level of quality absolutely mandatory.

Still, stringy remnants of Kia's back-of-the-lot history cling to its new image.

So maybe you ought to sit down while I tell you this: Kia's latest vehicle, the oddly named K900, is a 4,600-pound luxury—yes, luxury—sedan with rear-wheel drive, a five-liter V-8 engine, eight-speed automatic and acres of nappa leather inside.

Seriously, and the 2015 model I drove recently had a \$66,400 sticker price to prove it.

But Kia and big brother Hyundai really do seem determined to prove that they can build everything short of full-size pickups and SUVs.

Considering what they've accomplished in the last decade, I don't really doubt them. But the 2015 K900 faces some really substantial obstacles in the road—called Audi, Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Lexus and even Cadillac.

The dark metallic gray K900 I had certainly looked big enough to grapple with those guys.

The large, somewhat bulky sedan shares a platform and powertrain with Hyundai's Genesis and Equus sedans, and it's nearly as large as a 7-series BMW.

Kia veering into luxury



KIA/MCT

The 2014 Kia K900, which aims to compete with the big names in the luxury segment, shares a platform and powertrain with Hyundai's Genesis and Equus sedans.

NUTS & BOLTS

2015 Kia K900

- Type of vehicle: Full-size, rear-wheel-drive, five-passenger luxury sedan
- Price as tested: \$66,400
- Fuel economy: 15 miles per gallon city, 23 highway
- Weight: 4,624 pounds
- Engine: Direct-injected 5-liter V-8 with 420 horsepower and 376 pound-feet of torque
- Transmission: Eight-speed automatic
- Performance: 0 to 60 mph in 5.5 seconds

Sources: Kia Motors America; Motor Trend

The back seat is immense, with vast leg- and headroom. It's the sort of highly accommodating space Jerry Jones might appreciate on his, uh, out-of-

town trips. Up front, a big, square, well-proportioned dashboard in stitched black leather tumbled down onto a broad console

trimmed in wood.

The dash, which had a great shape, featured a large 9.2-inch touch screen in its center trimmed in shiny piano black.

One oddity with the instrument panel on the dash: When the K900 was in sport mode, the digital facsimiles of gauges disappeared, replaced by numeric readouts of the car's speed and revs.

It was something I never quite got used to—but maybe I'm just being grumpy.

I didn't care much for the car's gray headliner, which just seemed out of place in the black interior of a luxury sedan.

But the K900's perforated, well-stitched seats felt finely supportive, and the door panels also looked luxurious with smooth leather tops and padded centers.

Fortunately, the K900 relies on Hyundai's refined 420-horsepower V-8 and eight-speed automatic for motivation—or motor-vation, as the case may be.

While the big sedan wasn't blazingly fast, it was definitely quick on its feet, sprinting to 60 in 5.5 seconds.

The powertrain also delivered 15 miles per gallon in the city and 23 on the highway, which these days qualifies as just barely average, even in a big sedan.

Nonetheless, I've long admired this engine and its silky wall-of-power shove, which felt kind of like surfing in a lake.

Though quiet, subtle and highly Lexus-like, it never felt out of breath even when pushed past 6,000 rpm.

As you might expect in a large cruiser with a long wheelbase, the ride was pretty sublime, soaking up just about ev-

ery bump with minimal motion.

But the K900 was strictly an interstate animal, ready to whisk you and the duchess 300 miles in a few easy hours.

As you know, though, Hyundais and Kias rarely distinguish themselves in the handling department, and the K900 didn't make many advances in that area.

Even in sport mode, it seemed awkward in corners, leaning more in tight curves than I liked and feeling slightly uncomfortable—like a silk-stockinged Republican at a restaurant in Oak Lawn.

Although the car never lost its composure in hard curves, it exhibited just enough lean and stumble to make curves a mild irritant.

The numb steering also kept me well-behaved.

While reasonably quick with lots of power assist, it felt kind of isolated and artificial—sort of like the numeric tach that told me I was turning 2,107, nope, 2,110, nope, 2,206 rpm.

Look, I give Kia points for jumping into this demanding, highly style-conscious segment. I'm just not sure where they landed.

At 66 large, the Kia is \$6,000 cheaper than an entry-level Lexus LS, the car it most closely resembles in ride, performance and driving dynamics.

But it is roughly the same price as an aggressive BMW 550, a lovely Audi A7 sedan or a loaded Mercedes-Benz E-class.

As I see it, Kia's new challenge—it's biggest yet—is to persuade consumers sitting on 70 large to spend it on a Kia rather than those pedigreed choices.

It could be tough.

UNDER THE HOOD

Gas tank, wheel bearing issues

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: When I reach about a half tank of gas with my 2006 Hyundai Azera 3.8 engine, the gas gauge goes down to empty and the low fuel light comes on. Is there a sensor that controls the gauge or is there a problem with the fuel pump? If there is a sensor, can I replace it myself or should I take it to a mechanic?

A: Your Azera utilizes a fuel tank module consisting of the fuel pump and gas gauge sending unit. The sending unit contains a variable resistor and float lever. Differing fuel levels move the lever, resulting in greater electrical resistance with a low fuel level and less resistance when the tank is full. A faulty electrical connection is the cause of your gauge drop-

ping to empty, because high resistance and bad connections go hand in hand. Since your symptom occurs only when fuel is at a certain level rather than at random times, it's safe to say the electrical fault is within the sending unit.

Combining both the sender and fuel pump unfortunately means one needs to replace the complete unit even though only one part is faulty. If your Azera has racked up 80,000 miles or more, the fuel pump is entering its twilight time, if that helps one stomach the \$300-400 parts cost, plus installation. The fuel module is accessed by removing the back seat and then a thoughtfully convenient hatch in the floor. Book time for renewal is one hour. It's not a

difficult job, but one needs to diligently follow published safety precautions/procedures because of fuel vapors entering the vehicle and liquid fuel directly beneath.

If you are the sole driver and share my inclination to allow the fuel pump to enjoy a full life, you could simply punch the odometer reset button when the gauge reads half and use the miles accrued as a gauge supplement. I'd record the typical miles driven during the full to half gauge transition and figure about half of this would be a reasonable distance to fly blind before refueling.

Q: I was shocked to hear my '07 Yukon required a new front wheel bearing to the tune of \$485! What gives to



make this such an expensive repair?

A: Similar to Michael's issue above, component integration was not your friend. The Yukon's front wheel bearings are integrated with the wheel hub and ABS wheel speed sensor, creating a \$400 part instead of perhaps a \$30 one. The non-serviceable hub assembly is a simple bolt-on arrangement, after removing the brake caliper and rotor. My assumption is this is a labor/cost saving strategy for vehicle assembly—and it seems GM cheated out a bit on bearing quality. I've already renewed both left and right side hub assemblies on my HD2500 Silverado in less than 75,000 miles. I specified Timken aftermarket replacements, as they're my bearing company of choice.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood(at)earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

Actor-director Richard Attenborough dies at 90

LONDON (AP)—Richard Attenborough was a lord, an Oscar-winning director for the much-lauded “Gandhi” and an unflagging pillar to British cinema. But Attenborough, who died Sunday at 90, was best known as Dickie.

Baby-faced as a young actor and whitely bearded in his older age, Attenborough—warmly known as “Dickie Darling”—presided over six decades of British moviemaking as both an actor and filmmaker with a genial warmth that endeared him to his fans and fellow actors.

“I have no great interest in being remembered as a great creative filmmaker,” he told The New York Times when “Gandhi” was released in 1982. “I want to be remembered as a storyteller.”

The actor’s son, Michael Attenborough told the BBC that his father died Sunday. He had been in poor health for some time.

Prime Minister David Cameron issued a statement calling Attenborough “one of the greats of cinema”: “His acting in ‘Brighton Rock’ was brilliant, his directing of ‘Gandhi’ was stunning,” Cameron said.

Ben Kingsley, who shot to stardom for his performance as Mahatma Gandhi, recalled Attenborough’s passionate 20-year struggle to bring Gandhi’s story to the big screen. The film won eight Oscars, including best picture (over “E.T.”), best director for Attenborough and best actor for Kingsley.

“He placed in me an absolute trust and in turn I placed an absolute trust in him and grew to love him,” said Kingsley. “I along with millions of others whom he touched through his life and work will miss him dearly.”

A product of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, Attenborough made his screen debut in the patriotic 1942 World War II film “In Which We Serve.” He was awarded the Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Prize in 1983. He was knighted in 1976, and 17 years later received a life peerage, becoming Baron Attenborough of Richmond upon Thames.

“Dickie Attenborough was passionate about everything in his life—family, friends, country and career,” said Steven Spielberg, director of “Jurassic Park.” “He made a gift to the world with his emotional epic ‘Gandhi’ and he was the perfect ringmaster to bring the dinosaurs back to life as John Hammond in ‘Jurassic Park.’ He was a dear friend and I am standing in an endless line of those who completely adored him.”

The son of a university principal, Attenborough was born Aug. 29, 1923, into a family with strong liberal views and a tradition of volunteer work for humanitarian concerns. One of his younger brothers is naturalist David Attenborough, whose nature documentaries have reached audiences around the world.

A small, energetic man with a round face that remained boyish even in old age, he was perfectly cast at the start of his career as the young sailor or airman of British movies during and after World War II.

In his 1942 film debut as a ter-

rified warship’s crewman in “In Which We Serve,” a 19-year-old Attenborough made a small part into one of the most memorable roles in the movie, which won the Best Picture Oscar.

In 1947, Attenborough gave one of the best performances of his career as the teenage thug Pinkie in “Brighton Rock,” the film version of Graham Greene’s novel.

His youthful appearance nearly cost him the lead role in the original cast of “The Mouse-trap,” because its author, Agatha Christie, didn’t think he looked like a police detective. But he starred with his wife, actress Sheila Sim, when the hit play opened in November 1952 and stayed for 700 performances.

In 1959, Attenborough joined fellow actor Bryan Forbes in film production. “The Angry Silence” in 1960 was their successful debut, with Attenborough playing a strike-breaking factory worker. It was one of the first of the gritty, working-class films that heralded Britain’s “new realism” of the 1960s.

Together, Forbes and Attenborough produced “Whistle Down the Wind” in 1961 and “The L-Shaped Room” in 1962. Their last film, 1964’s “Seance on a Wet Afternoon,” won Attenborough Best Actor awards from the London Film Critics and British Film Academy.

In the meantime, he had appeared as a prisoner of war in 1963’s “The Great Escape”—known for its classic ensemble cast, including Steve McQueen, James Coburn and Charles Bronson—and starred in “Guns at Batasi,” for which he won another British Film Academy award. In 1967, he won a Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actor in “The Sand Pebbles.”

In 1969, Attenborough turned to directing with “Oh What a Lovely War,” a lampoon of World War I, which won a Golden Globe award as best English-language foreign film. Three years later, he made “Young Winston,” the story of Winston Churchill’s early life.

In between, in 1971, he turned in a chilling performance

as 1950s mass murderer John Reginald Christie in “10 Rillington Place.”

His return to directing in the 1977 war movie “A Bridge Too Far” was an expensive disaster, despite its cast of international stars. The following year, the heavy-handed 1978 thriller “Magic” with Anthony Hopkins, also fared poorly.

“A Chorus Line,” Attenborough’s 1985 film of the long-running stage musical, also took a critical beating. And, more recently, 1996’s “In Love and War,” failed to win much critical support.

Attenborough was often thought to be at his best when trying to coax the finest work from actors. “Gandhi” made a star of its little-known leading man, Kingsley, and Denzel Washington won an Oscar nomination for 1987’s “Cry Freedom.”

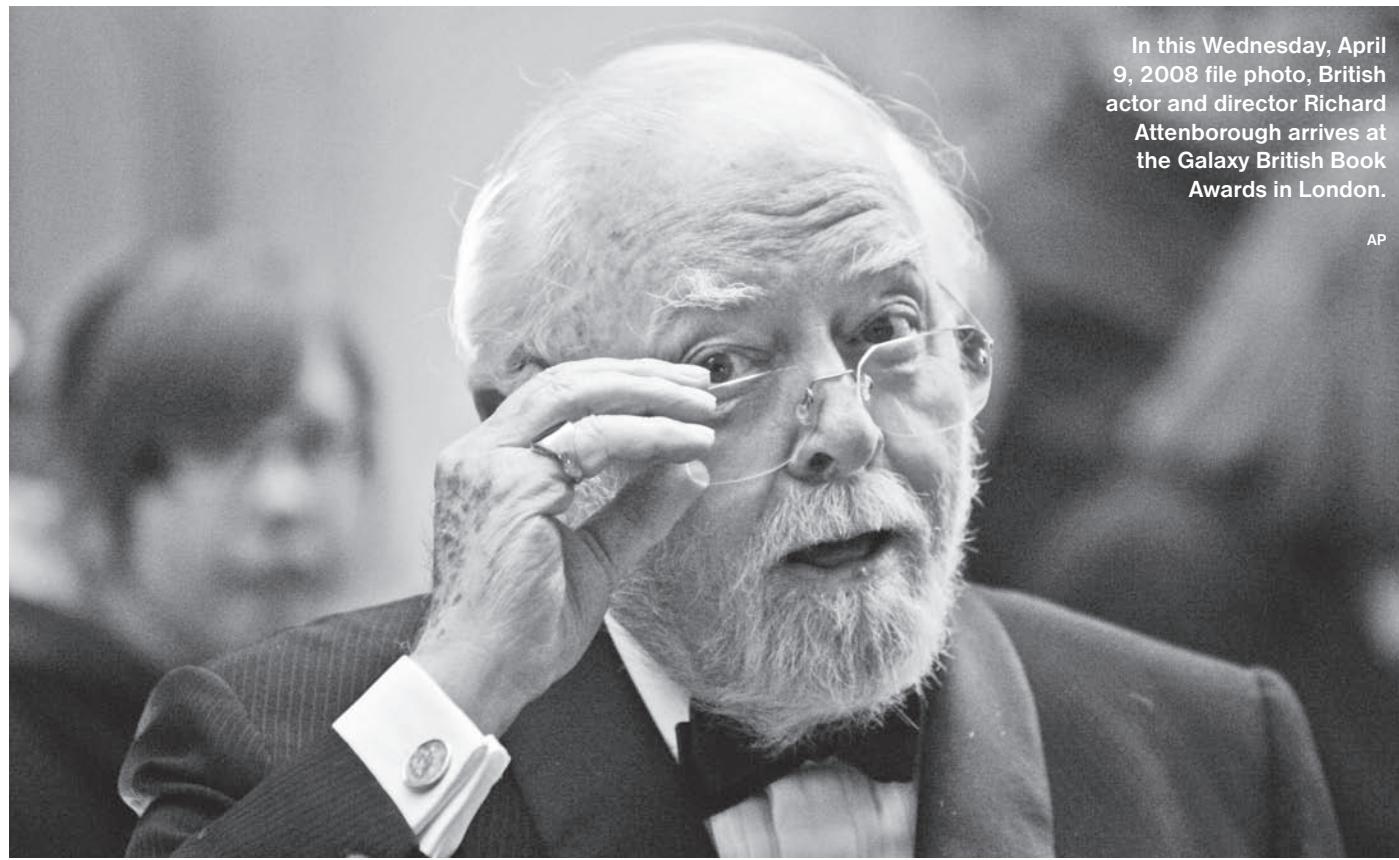
“The people I want to reach are those who have never even considered the whole question of South Africa. In order to do that, you have to make a film that is fundamentally entertaining. I’m in the entertainment business; I’m not a politician,” he told The Associated Press at the time. “I make movies for millions of people all over the world.”

Debra Winger was nominated for an Oscar and Anthony Hopkins gave one of his best performances in “Shadowlands,” a small, subtle film that won Attenborough perhaps his greatest critical praise.

Attenborough’s later years were marked by a personal tragedy when he lost his daughter Jane and granddaughter in the tsunami that hit Thailand the day after Christmas in 2004. The heartbroken Attenborough said he was never able to celebrate the Christmas holidays after that.

Attenborough had been in frail health since a fall at his house in 2008, and spent his last years in a nursing home with his wife.

He is survived by his wife, their son and a daughter.



In this Wednesday, April 9, 2008 file photo, British actor and director Richard Attenborough arrives at the Galaxy British Book Awards in London.

AP

post-War Britain.

In his 60-plus years of acting, he amassed some 70 credits, including “Brighton Rock,” “The Great Escape,” “Doctor Dolittle,” “10 Rillington Place,” “Jurassic Park” (as the failed theme park developer) and the 1994 remake of “Miracle on 34th Street.” (Naturally, he played Kris Kringle.)

He transitioned into directing beginning with 1969’s World War I musical comedy “Oh! What a Lovely War.” He directed 12 films altogether, including “A Bridge Too Far,” “A Chorus Line,” “Cry Freedom,” “Chaplin” and “Shadowlands.”

Attenborough was a constant advocate for the British film industry as well as other humanitarian causes, including his extensive work as a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF. He was awarded the Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Prize in 1983.

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‘Guardians’ retakes box office, tops summer films

NEW YORK (AP)—“Guardians of the Galaxy” became the summer’s top-grossing movie at the North American box office with a \$17.6 million weekend that narrowly bested the young adult melodrama “If I Stay,” while the long-delayed “Sin City” sequel, “A Dame to Kill For,” flopped.

With an estimated \$17.6 million in its fourth weekend of release, the Marvel space adventure passed “Transformers: Age of Extinction” to become the summer’s biggest domestic hit with a cumulative total of \$252 million. The film, released by

Disney, was an unlikely August sensation (late summer is usually an afterthought in Hollywood’s lucrative summer season) that helped the box office rebound somewhat after big-budget sequels like “The Amazing Spider-Man 2” and “How To Train Your Dragon 2” failed to ignite the multiplexes.

“This movie just couldn’t have come at a better time,” said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak. “When we were really down and out in the summer box office—at one point down 20 percent from last year—‘Guardians’

came along and injected life. What is surprising is that it was a film launched in August.”

The Warner Bros. tearjerker “If I Stay” failed to top the box office with a weekend haul of \$16.4 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. In the film, a co-production between MGM and New Line Cinema, Chloe Grace Moretz stars as a teen in a coma after a car accident. It came in third place behind Paramount’s reptile reboot “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles,” which made \$16.8 million in its third weekend.

Dan Fellman, head of domes-

tic distribution for Warner Bros., said the studio was pleased with the performance of “If I Stay” considering its \$11 million production budget. Advance tracking on the film had forecast a box office-topping result, but tracking had also expected “Sin City: A Dame to Kill For” to open in the mid-teens. It made just \$6.5 million.

“This is a complete miss,” said Erik Lomis, the Weinstein Co.’s distribution chief. “Obviously, we’re very, very disappointed in the numbers. We definitely did not see it coming in like this.”

The hurt was particularly

acute, Lomis said, because it happened with a longtime Weinstein Co. collaborator, director Robert Rodriguez. He helmed the first “Sin City” film, which opened with \$29.1 million in 2005 and made \$159 million globally. But nine years is a long time to wait for a sequel, and clearly the novelty of the film’s digital adaptation of Frank Miller’s black-and-white graphic novels wore off with both moviegoers and critics.

The faith-based high school football film “When the Game Stands Tall” opened with \$9.1 million for Sony.

1. “Guardians of the Galaxy,” \$17.6 million (\$20.7 million international).
2. “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles,” \$16.8 million (\$15.5 million international).
3. “If I Stay,” \$16.4 million.
4. “Let’s Be Cops,” \$11 million (\$1.3 million international).
5. “When the Game Stands Tall,” \$9.1 million.
6. “The Giver,” \$6.7 million (\$1.4 million international).
7. “The Expendables 3,” \$6.6 million (\$16.5 million international).
8. “Sin City: A Dame to Kill For,” \$6.5 million (\$4.9 million international).
9. “The Hundred-Foot Journey,” \$5.6 million.
10. “Into the Storm,” \$3.8 million (\$8.8 million).

Bow down: Beyoncé owns the MTV Video Music Awards

By MESFIN FEKADU
AP MUSIC WRITER

Beyoncé closed the MTV Video Music Awards with an epic nearly 20-minute performance, and tears streamed down her face as she was joined onstage by her beaming husband and daughter.

Beyoncé sang and danced Sunday in a metallic leotard while Blue Ivy and Jay Z watched from their seats as the diva declared: "MTV, welcome to my world."

As Beyoncé accepted the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard award, the VMA's version of a lifetime achievement award, at The Forum in Inglewood, California, she kissed her daughter and husband Jay Z, who called her the "greatest living entertainer." The duo won best collaboration for the hit "Drunk In Love."

"I have nothing to say but I am filled with so much gratitude," she told the cheering crowd as they chanted her name repeatedly.

Her performance easily outdid her competition throughout the night, though Beyoncé lost video of the year, which instead went to Miley Cyrus who let a homeless man accept her award. It was in sharp contrast to the 2013 VMAs, when Cyrus twerked and danced shockingly onstage.

"Thank y'all, my name is Jesse and I accepting this award on behalf of the 1.6 million runaways and homeless youth in the United States who are starving, lost and scared for their lives right now. I know this because I am one of these



Beyoncé performs at the MTV Video Music Awards at The Forum on Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014, in Inglewood, Calif.

AP

people," he said, as a teary Cyrus looked on. "Though I may have been invisible to you in the streets, I have a lot of the same dreams that brought many of you here tonight."

Cyrus' decision to let someone else accept her award to promote a cause was reminiscent of Marlon Brando's 1973 Academy Awards best actor win, when he gave a Native

American activist the stage rather than accept his Oscar trophy.

The two-hour show was tamper than past VMAs: the most shocking moment was Nicki Minaj's rump-shaking during her performance of "Anaconda" in the show's first minutes and her wardrobe malfunction when she joined Ariana Grande and Jessie J for "Bang, Bang."

"It felt amazing to open the

show, and we ran out of time getting the dress zipped up," Minaj said backstage.

Taylor Swift was a crowd favorite when she performed her new single "Shake It Off" in shimmery, fringed shorts and a crop top. She got to the top of the stage, and as her tuxedo male background dancers stood with their arms wide open waiting for Swift to jump

she said, "One second. I don't care if it's the VMAs. I'm not jumping off there."

She continued: "It's all kinds of people getting bitten by snakes. Dangerous."

Grande, who held hands with rapper Big Sean backstage, kicked off the show with a performance of her EDM hit, "Break Free" in a Beyoncé-inspired leotard. The 21-year-old won best pop video for her smash single "Problem," but lost best female video to Katy Perry, who won for "Dark Horse."

Perry sported a figure-hugging denim dress and was joined by Riff Raff in a coordinating outfit, mirroring Justin Timberlake and Britney Spears at the 2001 American Music Awards.

The night also featured a serious social message: Rapper-actor Common held a moment of silence for Michael Brown, the unarmed 18-year-old who was fatally shot by a police officer on Aug. 9, before he presented the award for best hip-hop video.

"Hip-hop has always been about truth and has been a powerful instrument of social change, from Melle Mel to Public Enemy to Kendrick Lamar," Common said. "Hip-hop has always been presented a voice for the revolution."

Later, a 15-second spot aired alluding to the shooting in Ferguson, Missouri, urging viewers to take action to eliminate bias.

"Not everything that is faced can be changed; but nothing can be changed until it is faced," a quote by author James Baldwin read on the screen.

Lorde won best rock video for "Royals" and Ed Sheeran won best male video, beating out Pharrell, Eminem, John Legend and Sam Smith, who was a show highlight with his smoldering performance of his hit "Stay With Me."

Iggy Azalea and Ora appeared onstage as spider women when they performed their hit "Black Widow," as Swift, Lorde and Charli XCX danced and sang along.

Katy Perry channels Britney Spears at MTV VMAs

By LEANNE ITALIE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Katy Perry and Riff Raff took it back to 2001 Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake in matching denim, while Amber Rose channeled Rose McGowan circa 1998 in barely there silver with cascading chains at Sunday's MTV Video Music Awards.

Perry popped out of a sports car with the grilled Riff Raff onto the red carpet just before the televised awards began. She called her tight, studded patchwork dress a custom Versace in a "throwback to Britney and Justin," a la the American Music Awards 13 years ago.

"This is how we do the remix," she joked.

Amber, who is married to Wiz Khalifa, went for a Vegas showgirl moment, her chest barely covered with loose loops down to a tiny bikini bottom. The look evoked McGowan oh-so-many years ago.

Ariana Grande upped her sex appeal with an ooh-la-la black leather mini and matching thigh-high boots but kept

the signature girly high ponytail. British pop singer Charli XCX wore a yellow tiger-print leotard.

The 21-year-old Grande worked long zippers back and front on her strapless Moschino moto look. Charli's tight leotard and leggings were designed by the same Italian brand.

Designer Jeremy Scott joined Charli in her yellow, yellow world in bright tuxedo tails—chest bared—with a big smiley face on the back.

"I feel sexy in it," said Charli, among the early red carpet walkers. "I think my spirit animal is probably a tiger."

Kesha, sometimes a red carpet shocker, went classic in a floor-length sparkler in a far more subdued carpet than VMAs of yore.

Taylor Swift arrived in a long-sleeve, blue lace shorty romper with a lettered alphabet theme to go with her new short 'do. It was designed by London-based Mary Katrantzou.

Laverne Cox was in sparkly blue, a space-age one-sleeve from Marc Bouwer, and Miley Cyrus tugged on a tiny strap-

less black leather midriff-baring top she wore with high-waisted matching trousers.

"Marc has been so good to me," said Cox, an advocate for trans women like herself.

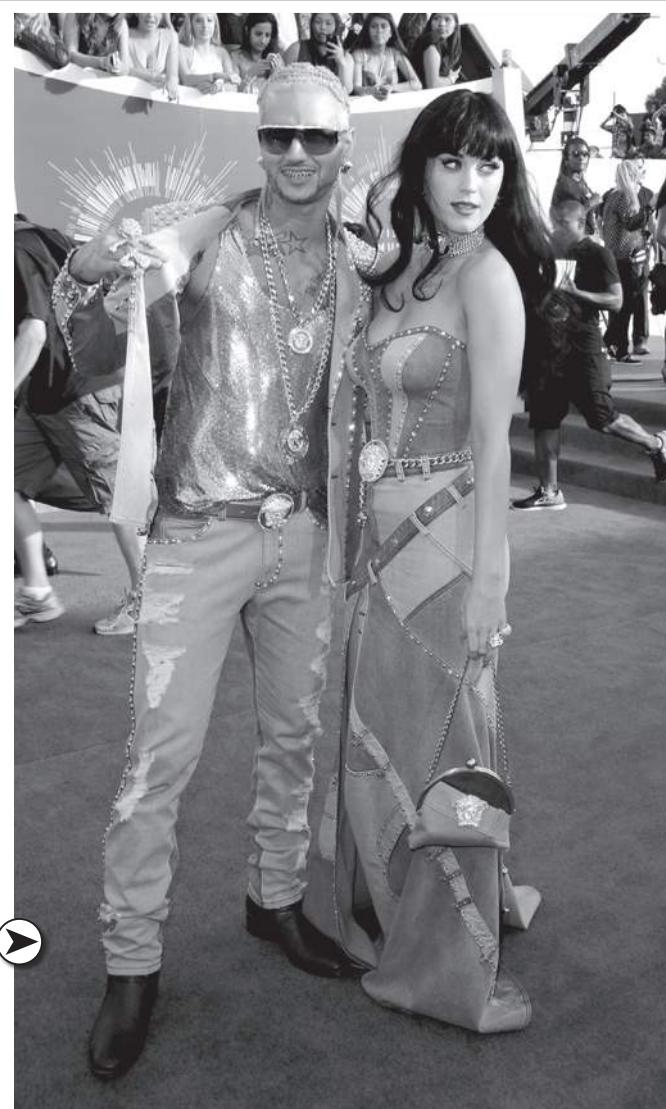
She has worn several of his designs in recent months.

"He's one of the few designers in whose showroom I can walk where the clothes will actually fit me, not being a sample size. I think Mark just loves a woman's body," Cox said.

Jessie J stood out in a pale green vintage Halston goddess gown with a deep V halter, and Jennifer Lopez showed off her curves in silver cutouts.

Rita Ora, in a Donna Karan Atelier classic backless red dress with a high side slit, finished her look with a slicked-back down 'do not unlike that of Iggy Azalea, who wore blue Versace. Also in red was Demi Lovato in a gown with wide chest-bearing V neck.

Riff Raff, left, and Katy Perry arrive at the MTV Video Music Awards at The Forum on Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014, in Inglewood, Calif.



G Unit surprises fans, digitally releasing 6 songs

NEW YORK (AP)—G Unit surprised fans when its members reunited earlier this summer at the year's biggest hip-hop concert, and they have another surprise: they digitally released six new songs Beyoncé-style early Monday.

The rap group dropped "The Beauty of Independence" extended play at midnight, mirroring Beyoncé's successful surprise release of her self-titled album last year. The 50 Cent-led group disbanded over the years and last released "T.O.S: Terminate on Sight" in 2008.

50 Cent said the group, which released its multiplatinum debut "Beg for Mercy" in 2003, is more mature today, and that enhanced the creativity behind the new music.

"The artist are more developed than they were in the very beginning," he said, adding that



This Aug. 20, 2014 photo shows American rapper, entrepreneur and actor 50 Cent, center, posing for a portrait with G-Unit members Young Buck, Lloyd Banks, Tony Yayo and Kidd Kidd in New York.

include "Stunt 101" and "Wanna Get to Know You."

Yayo, who was in jail when "Beg for Mercy" was released in 2003, said he grew frustrated with the music industry while the group was split.

"So when Banks stop talking to 50, I'm not talking to Buck, nobody's talking to nobody. Now I'm lost. I'm like, 'What am I going to do?'" he said. "And bad enough, your friends you think are your real friends—the 40-man entourage you paid for dinner for, you took to this and that—where did they go? They're gone. They're out the picture."

He said that helped him realize who is most important: "You get all kinds of industry frustration, but I'll never let it happen again because I realized the only person that ever helped me in my life is 50 Cent, is Lloyd Banks, is Young Buck."

Cliff Richard rejects sexual assault allegation

LONDON (AP)—British pop star Cliff Richard says police have questioned him about a sexual assault allegation.

A statement issued Sunday on behalf of Richard says the allegation that he assaulted a

boy at a religious rally in Sheffield, northern England, in the 1980s is "completely false."

Police, who do not name suspects unless they are charged, said a 73-year-old man was interviewed under caution at a

police station Saturday. He was not arrested.

"Under caution" means the interview was recorded and could be used in future prosecutions.

Earlier this month police searched a house belonging to

new member Kidd Kidd—released the album independently on the Caroline label, where 50 Cent released the album "Animal Ambition" in June after years of being signed to Interscope and Eminem's Shady Records.

"It's clear that the passion

for what we do is there because you don't see the same numbers anymore," 50 Cent said of the record sales. "But it's even more important that you mean something. For me, when I fell in love with (music), authenticity was everything."

The group members were excited and brotherly, full of laughs and sitting tightly during a recent interview. Try to get a question in and you'd fail. They said aging has helped them realize they needed to revive G Unit, whose hits a decade ago

Nominees share Emmy-day rituals, perspectives

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Most everyone was still a potential winner as nominees stepped out this weekend to celebrate in advance of Monday's Emmy ceremony.

Festivities began early Saturday afternoon, with the annual BAFTA L.A. TV Tea event, sponsored by the Los Angeles branch of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, which brought out, among dozens of others, nominees from the hit Brit drama "Downton Abbey."

"It's great fun because you get to see everyone before the big day," said actress Michelle Dockery, who portrays the Abbey's Lady Mary Crawley. "It's also ('Downton' actress and nominee) Joanne Froggatt's birthday," Dockery continued, sliding into a joke: "So, it's great! They're putting on all these parties for her."

Froggatt, who actually turned

34 on Thursday, is nominated for playing Lady's Maid Anna Bates. "I think there's four possible parties tonight," Froggatt said. "I don't think I'll make all four. I'll see how my stamina holds out. But, then, tomorrow is quite quiet, just the evening-before party and then the big day."

Among Saturday's other major Emmy-related bashes: the Television Academy's performers nominee reception as well as the "Variety" and Women in Film pre-Emmy celebration.

Like Dockery and Froggatt, actress Mayim Bialik is an Emmy veteran. She has three nominations, but no wins, for her portrayal of neurobiologist Amy Farrah Fowler on the sitcom "The Big Bang Theory."

"I usually have Thai food before I go to the Emmys," Bialik said. "I usually put on mopey emotional music, just because it lets me feel something, so I'm not numb with all my anxiety."

Rap mogul Suge Knight shot, wounded in nightclub

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Death Row Records founder and rap mogul Marion "Suge" Knight was shot and injured in a packed nightclub early Sunday, but he was expected to survive, a Los Angeles County sheriff's sergeant said.

Knight was one of three club patrons struck by gunfire around 1:30 a.m. at 1OAK on West Hollywood's Sunset Boulevard, said Sgt. C. Tatar, watch commander at the Los Angeles County sheriff's West Hollywood station.

Two other victims, a man and a woman, were taken to the



Knight

hospital for treatment and were expected to survive.

Authorities are still seeking a suspect and declined to release additional information, citing the ongoing investigation.

The shooting came just hours before MTV's Video Music Awards in Inglewood Sunday evening. R&B singer Chris Brown, who was co-hosting a party at the nightclub with Pia Mia, was also inside the

club but not hit by the gunfire, Tatar said.

"This incident did not involve Chris; he was merely the host of the event," the singer's representative said in a statement. "He has and will continue to cooperate with the investigation."

MTV said it had no affiliation or connection to the event. Calls to the club rang unanswered.

Laura Coverson, a spokeswoman for Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, said she could not confirm reports that Knight was being treated there because of strict medical privacy laws.

Knight has been shot before. In 2005, he was struck in the leg during an MTV awards pre-party in Miami Beach.

Knight's genius for poaching up-and-coming talent helped him land and make megastars out of Tupac Shakur, Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre and shifted the center of the rap universe to the West Coast in the 1990s.

Ring from broken engagement gets another chance to shine

DEAR ABBY: I was engaged several years ago, but the engagement didn't last. We broke up and I gave him back his ring. We remain close friends, however, and hang out at least once a week.

I have been dating another guy for a couple of years, and we're thinking about getting engaged. I am wondering if it would be improper to ask my ex if we could buy my old ring from him. It was—and still is—my "dream ring," and I know my ex has kept it in the glove box of his car ever since I gave it back to him.

I don't want to commit a faux pas, but it seems silly to buy another identical ring. What do you think?

HEADED DOWN THE AISLE

DEAR HEADED DOWN THE AISLE: If you haven't discussed this with your current boyfriend, you should. It might bother him to see you wearing an engagement ring that was given to you by someone else. If he says it's OK, I can't see why you shouldn't ask your former fiance if he'd be willing to part with it. Frankly, he might be glad to get the money.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have a love problem I could use your help with. I go to college, and I met an amazing girl, "Lorena," here. She's very religious, which I like about her. We have been talking, but I'm afraid to ask her out. I don't have the best morals, and I'm afraid I would corrupt her if we did go out. I don't want to make her into something she isn't.

Should I let her be who she is, or take the risk of dating her and hope she'll be happy? When I think about Lorena, I realize I'd do anything for her—even change my life. Please tell me what to do.

WILD MAN IN KENT, OHIO

DEAR WILD MAN: Feeling as you do about Lorena, I think you should take the risk and ask her out. Because you would do "anything" for her, make it your top priority not to push her into anything you know wouldn't be good for her. You wouldn't be the first "wild man" to meet someone who made him want to be a better man. I wish you luck.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman in my 50s. My sister, who is also in her 50s, lives with me and has for several years. Could you please settle a dispute we are having?

She says that mail is private and when I bring my mail in from the mailbox, I should leave hers in the box. I say it is just common courtesy to bring all of it in at once and place it in a predetermined spot for the recipient. I am not saying that mail is not private, because it is. And I would never dream of opening anyone's mail, but don't you have to look at the envelope to know which person it belongs to?

So what do you think? Should it be left in the box or should I bring it all in?

STUMPED SISTER IN HOUSTON

DEAR ABBY:
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR SISTER: I think what you have been doing is both wise and prudent. Unless the mailbox has a lock on it, I would recommend bringing all the mail into the house as soon as possible after it's delivered to prevent theft. However, because your sister is sensitive about it and asked that you leave it in the box for her to retrieve, you should do as she has requested.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



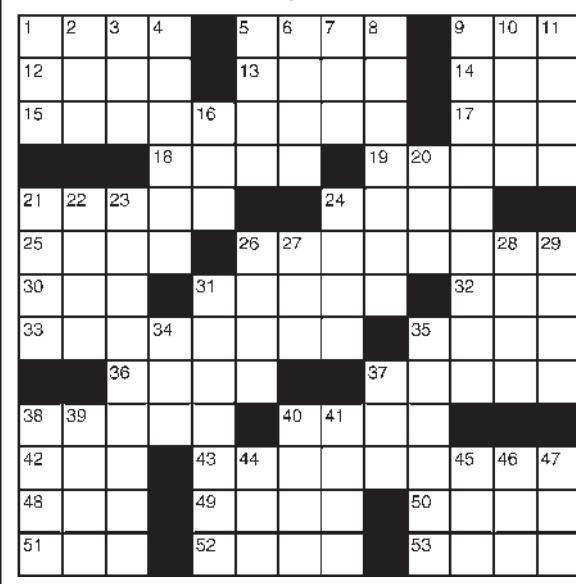
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40	Erstwhile acorns	5	"The Amazing —"	23	Brass musician	24	Dresses in
1 Show-room sample	42	Blackbird	43	Goat sign	6	Hollywood clasher	26	Passenger's payment abbr.
5 Paper quantity	48	"Monty Python" opener	49	Lend an illegal hand	7	Timetable	27	Recline
9 1-Across, e.g.	48	"Monty Python" opener	49	Lend an illegal hand	8	Authoritative order	28	Wood strip
12 Black-and-white cookie	50	Stead	51	Parcel of land	9	"Planet of the Apes" role	29	Opposed
13 Taj Mahal city	52	Lord's mate	53	"Desire Under the —"	10	Soon, poetically	31	"Cats" or "Cabaret"
14 Individual	53	"Desire Under the —"	54	Start over	11	Start over	34	Tit for —
15 Hallowe'en treat	55	"Under the —"	56	Submachine gun	16	"Of course"	35	Strength
17 Scepter	57	"Under the —"	58	Elmer, to Bugs	20	Hyperbole	37	Tackle the slopes
18 Dregs	59	"Under the —"	60	Hoover Dam lake	21	Follow closely	38	Follow closely
19 "Ain't got a clue"	61	"Under the —"	62	"... blackbirds, baked	22	Do — others ..."	39	"Do — others ..."
21 Joust weapons	63	"Under the —"	64	Chaps	23	Essay pg.	40	Bohemian
24 Stupefy	65	"Under the —"	66	Loads	24	Lawyers' org.	41	Gemini
25 Heroic poetry	67	"Under the —"	68	Solution time: 22 mins.	25	Lubricate	42	Lawyers' org.
26 Group of warships	69	"Under the —"	70	ALTO F-U CABS	26	Sleep phenom-enon, for short	43	Lawyers' org.
30 Melody	71	"Under the —"	72	HESI HAIR OMII	27	Greek consonants	44	Lawyers' org.
31 Down East	73	"Under the —"	74	CAPTIVES BOLA	28	Lawyers' org.	45	Lawyers' org.
32 Writer Fleming	75	"Under the —"	76	EVE HAWKER	29	Lawyers' org.	46	Lawyers' org.
33 False teeth	77	"Under the —"	78	STORE KALE	30	Lawyers' org.	47	Lawyers' org.
35 Pooch	79	"Under the —"	80	PALS CAPABLE	31	Lawyers' org.		
36 Relaxation	81	"Under the —"	82	ALL HYPER EETH	32	Lawyers' org.		
37 Cold rolled food	83	"Under the —"	84	CAPE COD ANNA	33	Lawyers' org.		
38 — frutti	85	"Under the —"	86	SILK UNSAY	34	Lawyers' org.		
	87	"Under the —"	88	HUMERI ORT	35	Lawyers' org.		
	89	"Under the —"	90	ESAU CAPSIZED	36	Lawyers' org.		
	91	"Under the —"	92	REND AREACODE	37	Lawyers' org.		
	93	"Under the —"	94	ORFO IFD SOON	38	Lawyers' org.		

Yesterday's answer 8-26



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Keke Palmer, 21; Macaulay Culkin, 34; Chris Pine, 34; Melissa McCarthy, 44.

Happy Birthday: This is a look, see and do kind of year. Determination will help you adopt an attitude that can lead to victory. Remembering past failures and the experiences that have led you to this point in your life will influence you to make hard choices that may not please everyone, but will lead to a better future. Your numbers are 3, 7, 12, 21, 30, 38, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Be assertive and follow a hunch. A service or skill you have to offer can be turned into a lucrative business venture. Express your thoughts and put together a plan that will entice someone you'd like on your team. ☀☀☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make suggestions or discuss work-related matters with your peers. Your show of enthusiasm will help you gain respect and support. Don't be afraid to use alternative means or methods to improve your efficiency, knowledge or skills. Speak from the heart. ☀☀☀☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Look past the obvious. Situations will not be as they appear. An emotional setback will develop if you ignore what's being said or done. Honesty and straightforwardness along with moderation and practicality will help. Ask for approval before making changes at home. ☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look at your to-do list and choose what's most important. Putting your energy where it counts will help you avoid criticism. An unex-

pected change in a relationship must be handled with care. Follow through with whatever promise or commitment you make. ☀☀☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take a closer look at your financial situation. Over-spending will lead to added stress. Practice moderation and look for cheaper ways to proceed with your plans. You may crave change, but stay within your means. ☀☀☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Feeling anxious is likely if you are uncertain about what others do or say. You are best to take a wait-and-see approach, especially where money matters are concerned. Don't allow anyone to guilt you into parting with your cash. ☀☀☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Listen to and sum up the changes being suggested. Look for a way to satisfy the people you care about or the cause you believe in without jeopardizing your position or disrupting your home and family life. Do your own fact-finding. ☀☀☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will attract attention if you express your unique suggestions to your peers or someone who is in an influential position. Spending too much time with anyone will lead to a misunderstanding. Don't let anyone take advantage of you. ☀☀☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): False information from someone who isn't trustworthy will set you back. Travel plans along with poor communication will cause uncertainty and could ruin the strategy you put in place. Have a back-up plan ready to counter whatever comes your way. ☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look at your to-do list and choose what's most important. Putting your energy where it counts will help you avoid criticism. An unex-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGYCOPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look, calculate and follow through with your plans. You can move into a strategic position that will allow you to make decisions that are sure to improve your standard of living and future prospects. Say what's on your mind. ☀☀☀☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look for any professional opportunities. A shift in the way you do things will intrigue and entice someone to consider forming a professional relationship with you that should allow you both to prosper. Romance is in the stars. ☀☀☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Put passion, greater effort and calculated plans into play, and you will get ahead personally and professionally. Size up what you have to offer and what's being offered in return before you make a commitment. Emotional finagling is apparent. ☀☀☀

Birthday Baby: You have integrity and strong beliefs. You are aggressive, helpful and caring.

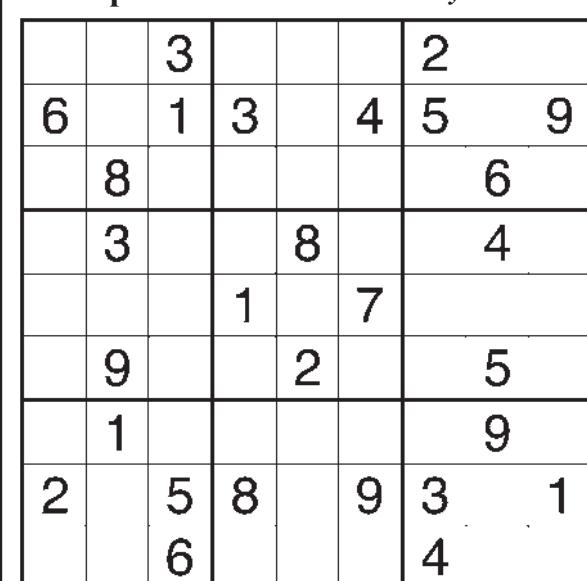
Birthday Baby: You are curious, generous and loving. You are imaginative and progressive.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

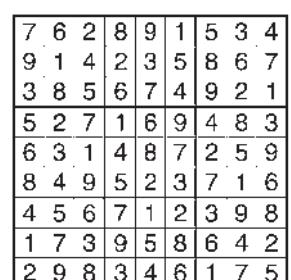
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

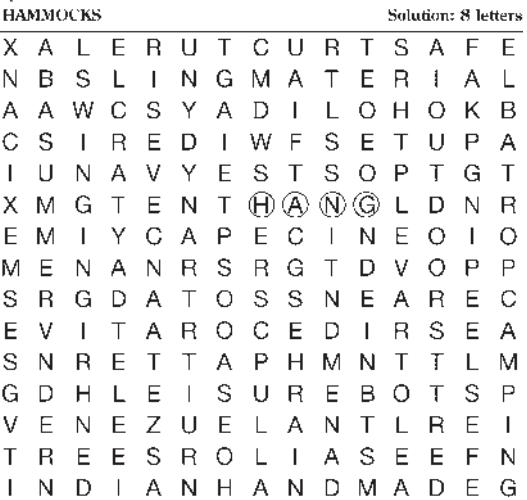
WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HAMMOCKS

Solution: 8 letters



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OTHER QUALIFICATIONS:

- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality.
- Full Time with flexible working hours.
- Salary: \$5.55/hr
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently.

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Other Qualifications:

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- Full Time with flexible working hours.
- Salary: \$5.55/hr
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently.

Please mail your resume to
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Please send resume to:
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WHATZIT Solution: Jack-in-the-box

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS
HOUSING CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(This ad is paid for by NMHC.)

OPENING DATE: AUGUST 12, 2014 * CLOSING DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2014 TIME: 4:30 PM
SALARY AT \$50,000.00 - \$60,000.00 UNGRADED
(Commensurate with education and experience)

"COMPTROLLER"

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS
HOUSING CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(This ad is paid for by NMHC.)

OPENING DATE: AUGUST 12, 2014 • CLOSING DATE: SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 TIME: 4:30 PM
SALARY AT \$35,000.00 UNGRADED

"FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY (FSS) COORDINATOR"

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

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/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Find today's solution in classified section

Hamilton powers Angels past A's

 OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)— Josh Hamilton is heating up at the right time, and Los Angeles manager Mike Scioscia hopes he can keep going.

Hamilton homered and drove in three runs, Mike Trout also went deep and the Angels regained the best record on baseball, beating the Oakland Athletics 9-4 on Sunday night.

"This is huge for Josh," Scioscia said. "You can see what he can bring from what he did today. He can control the game by himself."

Erick Aybar had two hits and two RBIs and Kole Calhoun finished with three hits for the Angels, who ended a five-game losing streak to the A's in Oakland. Albert Pujols and Howie Kendrick each drove in a run as Los Angeles won for the ninth time in 12 games.

"We needed a 'W' tonight," Trout said. "There are a lot of games left but any time you beat Oakland it's big."

Alberto Callaspo and Andy Parrino homered for Oakland, which had won three of four to move into a tie for the top spot in the AL West.

"It's not even about a series any more. We have to bear down every single day," A's manager Bob Melvin said. "When you take the first two, you always want the third one, but you can't complain when you take two of three."

Jered Weaver (14-7) struck out eight in 6 2-3 innings while improving to 7-1 with a 3.78 ERA in his last 13 starts. He allowed three runs and eight hits.

"It's nice to end the series on top of the AL West division," Weaver said. "This was obviously a huge game. We didn't want to get swept, and the offense was the story of the game."

Scott Kazmir (14-6) matched his season highs in runs (seven) and hits (10) in three-plus innings.

"There were times I felt I could take control of the game, get two strikes on a guy and then throw one right down the middle," Kazmir said. "I felt like I wasn't aggressive enough."

Aybar contributed a two-run double when the Angels got to Kazmir for three runs in the second. Calhoun doubled home Aybar for a 3-0 lead.

Nationals 14, Giants 6

In Washington, Ian Desmond and Bryce Harper homered and drove in two runs each, helping the streaking Nationals rally for the win.

Jose Lobaton doubled among his three hits, drove in a run and scored twice for the Nationals, who took the game against the Giants despite a labored four-inning outing from starter Stephen Strasburg.

Craig Stammen (4-4) allowed a run in two innings of relief for NL-East leading Washington, which has won



league win, helping the Rockies beat the Marlins.

Bergman (1-2) was reinstated from the disabled list earlier in the day after missing 51 games with a broken left hand. He gave up nine hits and four runs in his first start since June 20.

Arenado kept up his torrid month by going 2 for 4, raising his average to .388 in August.

Miami's Brad Hand (2-6) settled down after giving up two early homers. But he lasted just 4 1-3 innings and was charged with four runs and nine hits.

Indians 3, Astros 1

In Cleveland, Trevor Bauer took a shutout into the seventh and won for the first time since July 18, leading the Indians to a victory over the Astros.

Bauer (5-7) held Houston to four hits and struck out nine.

Cody Allen, the Indians' fourth pitcher, worked out of ninth-inning trouble for his 17th save.

Jon Singleton's RBI double in the eighth off Bryan Shaw scored Houston's only run. Brett Oberholtzer (4-9) allowed three runs in 6 2-3 innings.

Yankees 7, White Sox 4, 10 innings

In New York, pinch-hitter Brian McCann lined a three-run homer with two outs in the 10th inning, as the Yankees beat the White Sox to complete a three-game sweep.

Ichiro Suzuki had a two-run single and the Yankees rallied for their fourth straight victory following a 2-7 slide.

Avisail Garcia hit a tying homer in the ninth for the White Sox, who have lost a season-high six in a row and dropped their last eight games at Yankee Stadium.

Carlos Beltran doubled off Jake Petricka (0-3) with two outs in the 10th, and Chase Headley was intentionally walked. McCann, batting for backup catcher Francisco Cervelli, laced a full-count pitch over the 314-foot sign in the right-field corner.

David Huff (3-1) threw a called third strike past slugger Jose Abreu with two on to end the top of the 10th.

Rangers 3, Royals 1

In Arlington, Texas, Scott Baker won as a starter for the first time in more than three years as the Rangers beat the AL Central-leading Royals to avoid a series sweep.

Adrian Beltre put Texas ahead to stay with an RBI double in the first. Beltre had his fifth straight multihit game.

Baker (2-3) went five innings in a spot start.

Jason Vargas (10-6) allowed 11 hits and walked four in his six innings.

Mariners 8, Red Sox 6

In Boston, Dustin Ackley had three hits and scored three runs as Seattle's bullpen was sharp for the second straight day as the Mariners handed the Red Sox their eighth straight loss.

Ackley had a triple, double and single, finishing 13 for 25

in six games against Boston this season. The Mariners completed their first-ever sweep in a series of three or more games in Fenway Park.

Kyle Seager drove in two runs for Seattle.

Dominic Leone (7-2) worked 2 2-3 innings of hitless relief for the win.

Trailing 5-3, Seattle scored a run in the fourth and took the lead with two in the fifth against Allen Webster (3-2).

Tigers 13, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Victor Martinez homered and had four RBIs to lead the Tigers over the Twins.

Rajai Davis also connected for the Tigers, who have won two straight to earn a split of this four-game series.

Minnesota scored 32 runs in winning the first two games of the series and Detroit had 21 in taking the last two.

Martinez homered off Brian Duensing in the sixth for a 7-3 lead. His 25th home run of the season ties his career high set in 2007 with Cleveland.

Tigers starter Max Scherzer (15-4) lasted just five innings, allowing seven hits and three earned runs.

Minnesota starter Kyle Gibson (11-10) only pitched 4 2-3 innings on a hot and humid afternoon, allowing five earned runs on eight hits.

Rays 2, Blue Jays 1, 10 innings

In Toronto, Evan Longoria singled home the go-ahead run in the 10th inning as the Rays beat the Blue Jays.

Facing Sergio Santos (0-3), who was promoted from Triple-A Buffalo earlier in the day, Ben Zobrist walked to begin the 10th and went to third on Logan Forsythe's flyball that Nolan Reimold dropped for a two-base error. Longoria followed with a groundball single to left, scoring Zobrist.

Jake McGee (4-1) worked two innings for the win and Brad Boxberger finished for his second save in five chances as the Rays won for the eighth time in 11 road games. They have won nine of their past 10 series away from home.

Cubs 2, Orioles 1

In Chicago, Tsuyoshi Wada allowed Steve Pearce's leadoff homer in the seventh inning for Baltimore's only hit as the Cubs beat the AL East-leading Orioles for a three-game sweep.

Wada (4-1) got a popout after the homer that landed on Waveland Avenue and departed to a standing ovation from the crowd of 32,774. He struck out a career-high eight and walked one in 6 1-3 innings in his eighth career start.

Arismendi Alcantara homered run for the Cubs.

Miguel Gonzalez (6-7) allowed two runs and six hits in 6 1-3 innings after he was recalled from Triple-A Norfolk to replace Ubaldo Jimenez (4-9, 4.74 ERA) in the Orioles rotation.

12 of 13. Danny Espinosa also homered for the Nationals.

Giants reliever Jeremy Affeldt (3-2) allowed five hits and five runs in the sixth without retiring a batter after the departure of starter Ryan Vogelsong.

Reds 5, Braves 3

In Cincinnati, Alfredo Simon

pitched seven strong innings to earn his first win in eight starts since the All-Star break and Todd Frazier homered for the Reds.

Simon (13-8), who was 0-5 since pitching in the All-Star Game, opened with six shutout innings before yielding a run in the seventh. He allowed five hits with one walk and six strikeouts over seven innings.

Logan Ondrussek allowed Evan Gattis's 20th homer leading off the ninth and Jonathan Broxton gave up Jason Heyward's RBI single before coaxing Justin Upton into grounding into a base-loaded forceout for his seventh save for the Reds.

The Reds have won back-to-back games for the first time since winning three straight against Cleveland August 5-7.

Phillies 7, Cardinals 1

In Philadelphia, Jimmy Rollins homered and Jerome Williams tossed eight strong innings to lead the Phillies over the Cardinals.

Ben Revere had a pair of hits and an RBI for Philadelphia, which took two of three from the Cardinals to claim consecutive series wins for the first time since April.

Jhonny Peralta and Oscar

Taveras had a pair of hits for St. Louis, which lost for just the third time in 11 games.

Williams (2-0) continued his fine form with Philadelphia, his third team this season. The right-hander allowed one run on five hits while setting a season high for innings.

Justin Masterson (2-2) was lifted after giving up five runs and six hits in three innings.

Brewers 4, Pirates 3

In Milwaukee, Mike Fiers held Pittsburgh to two hits in seven innings for his fourth straight win since coming up from Triple-A, and the Brewers avoided a three-game sweep at home.

Fiers (4-1) fanned seven. He allowed Starling Marte's two-run shot in the second before retiring 16 of the next 17 batters.

Closer Francisco Rodriguez gave up a homer to Andrew McCutchen with one in the ninth. Rodriguez put the tying run aboard with two outs with a walk before striking out Pedro Alvarez for his 39th save.

Milwaukee knocked around Vance Worley (5-4) for four runs over the first two innings, with each hit coming with two outs.

Mets 11, Dodgers 3

In Los Angeles, Lucas Duda homered twice, drove in a career-high five runs and was involved in the New York Mets' first triple play in over four seasons, allowing a grieving Bartolo Colon to breeze to a victory over the Dodgers.

Aaron Harang (1-1) allowed a run in two innings of relief for the

Colon (12-10) gave up two runs and five hits over six innings and struck out five in his first start since his mother Adriana passed away on Monday from breast cancer.

Kevin Correia (2-1) lasted only three innings on his 34th birthday, giving up seven runs — five earned — and seven hits.

Duda, Reuben Tejada and Travis d'Arnaud all homered against the right-hander.

Padres 7, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, Yasmani Grandal homered and drove in four runs, and Ian Kennedy won in his second game back at Chase Field, as the Padres beat the Diamondbacks.

After struggling his first game back in the desert a year ago, Kennedy (10-11) was sharp against his former team before tiring late, striking out six in 5 2-3 innings.

Grandal provided plenty of support, hitting a deep sacrifice fly in the first inning and clearing the wall easily in the fifth with a three-run homer off Chase Anderson (7-6).

Pinch-hitter Will Venable added a two-run homer and Joaquin Benoit worked a perfect ninth for his eighth save to give San Diego manager Bud Black his 600th career win.

Rockies 7, Marlins 4

In Denver, Nolan Arenado hit a two-run homer and Christian Bergman pitched into the seventh to earn his first major

Mahan comes up with timely victory at The Barclays

PARAMUS, N.J. (AP)—About the only thing that went wrong for Hunter Mahan at The Barclays was when the trophy broke. All he had to show for perhaps the biggest win of his career was a large wreath of roses.

"Am I supposed to put this on, Kentucky Derby style?" he said.

That would have been fitting. The closing stretch was exactly what he needed Sunday.

Mahan pulled away with three straight birdies, sealing the victory with a 20-foot putt down the slope on the par-5 17th. That allowed him a bogey from the trees on the final hole for a 6-under 65 and a two-shot victory in the opening FedEx Cup playoff event.

He already has two World Golf Championships. Considering the timing, The Barclays felt bigger.

Mahan had gone 48 tournaments and nearly 30 months since his last victory. The only player to never miss a FedEx Cup playoff event, he wanted to keep alive his streak of reaching the Tour Championship every year since this series began in 2007. And he wanted to state his case for a captain's pick for the Ryder Cup team.

This performance will be hard for U.S. captain Tom Watson to ignore.

"To get a win in an event like this, and the timing that it was, it feels unbelievable," Mahan said.

"This game is all about winning," he said. "You can have a great year and if you don't win, it just feels like you missed out on something. So to get a win, and do it in a tournament like this in this kind of fashion with a 65 on Sunday, feels great."



Zoe Mahan, center, pushes the trophy as her mother Kandi Mahan, left, grabs her while they pose with Hunter Mahan, husband, father and winner of The Barclays golf tournament Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014, in Paramus, N.J. AP

On a day when six players had at least a share of the lead, Mahan found a way to make it look like a comfortable win at Ridgewood.

He rolled in a 10-foot birdie putt to take the outright lead on the par-3 15th, hit wedge to 3 feet for a birdie on the 16th and then rolled in a 20-foot birdie on the par-5 17th. That stretched his lead to three shots going to the final hole when Cameron Tringale bogeyed the 18th.

Mahan tried to make it a little more exciting that he needed it to be. He drove into the trees

on the right, pitched back to the fairway, pulled his approach into the rough and kept the outcome in doubt until he made the 8-foot bogey putt.

Jason Day, who shared the 54-hole lead with Jim Furyk, would have needed to hole out from the rough on the 18th to force a playoff and he missed the green. Day closed with a 68 and shared second place with Stuart Appleby (65) and Tringale, who celebrated his 27th birthday with a 66.

Furyk now has failed to win the last eight times he has held at least a share of the lead going into the final round. He was in

the mix until missing the fairway on the 14th and taking bogey, and he wound up with a 70 to finish in eighth place, four shots behind.

Mahan posed with the crystal trophy with his wife and 1-year-old daughter who flew in to surprise him. He wanted one more picture with David Finn, his biggest fan and a popular

figure in these parts. Finn is in a wheelchair with a disorder affecting his limbs and leaving him unable to speak.

Mahan got up to leave, picked up the trophy by its top and the bottom mysteriously broke off.

That can be replaced. The victory was one Mahan won't soon forget.

"There's really never a bad time to play good golf," he said. "And this is a really, really good time to play good golf."

Tringale began the week with questions about disqualifying himself from the PGA Cham-

pionship several days after the final major ended. He said he had doubts about whether he whiffed a tap-in for bogey and thus signed for a wrong score. He said he wanted a clear conscience.

"Didn't expect it to be this clear," Tringale said with a smile.

This was the best finish of his career, and it paid off handsomely. Tringale, who was No. 61 in the standings, moved all the way up to No. 10 and is virtually certain of being in the Tour Championship, which puts him in the majors next year—including his first trip to the Masters.

The top 100 players in the FedEx Cup standings advance to the second playoff event next week outside Boston. Seven players outside the top 100 at the start of the week qualified for the Deutsche Bank Championship, including Morgan Hoffmann at No. 124. Hoffman, who grew up minutes away from Ridgewood, played with Mahan and had a 69 to tie for ninth.

Geoff Ogilvy earned the 100th spot, only it wasn't in his hands. Ogilvy missed the cut, and his chances came down to Brendon Todd, who made a 15-foot par putt on the last hole. If Todd had missed the putt, Troy Merritt would have been at No. 100 by about a half-point.

Mahan finished at 14-under 270 and earned \$1.44 million. He moved to No. 1 in the FedEx Cup standings, assured of being among the top five players at East Lake with the best shot at capturing the \$10 million bonus.

British Open and PGA champion Rory McIlroy, going after his fourth straight victory, closed with a 70 and tied for 22nd.

quarterback that he was "OK."

"It is a tremendous loss for them," Browns coach Mike Pettine said. "We knew that it didn't look like much when it happened, but I just think it was a good amount of weight that got put on it. It's such an unfortunate thing."

Pettine said there "certainly wasn't any intent" by Bryant to hurt Bradford.

Bradford had 14 touchdown passes and four interceptions last season. The Rams then upgraded their offensive line by drafting guard-tackle Greg Robinson No. 2 overall.

Bradford played in two preseason games and was 4 for 9 for 77 yards against the Browns.

The 34-year-old Hill has thrown only 16 passes the past three seasons as the backup in Detroit. He made 10 starts in 2010 for the Lions in place of injured Matthew Stafford and beat the Rams for Detroit's first win after a 0-4 start.

"He makes good decisions, he's mobile and just understands defense," Fisher said. "He's very reliable."

Bradford out for season with ACL tear



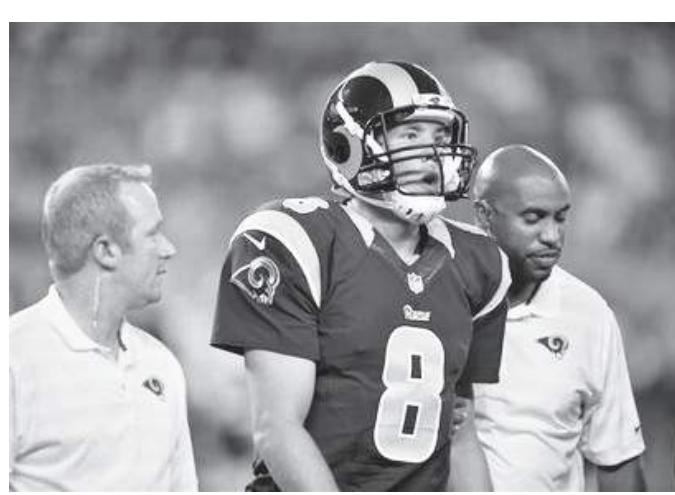
ST. LOUIS (AP)—Jeff Fisher shared the bad news with Sam Bradford on Sunday morning.

By the time the St. Louis Rams coach began his day-after news conference, he'd had several hours to digest the impact of an injury that puts the team's once-rosy outlook in serious doubt, and to give a vote of confidence to journeyman backup Shaun Hill.

After announcing Bradford's season-ending torn ACL in his left knee for the second time in nine months, Fisher said speculation about a trade was premature.

At least, they'll likely wait to see who hits the market in the first round of cuts on Tuesday when rosters must be at 75 players.

"It makes no sense to jump and react right now and try to fill the hole at whatever cost," Fisher said. "We're going to take our time and evaluate this. "There's going to be some



St. Louis Rams quarterback Sam Bradford (8) leaves the field after getting hit by Cleveland Browns defensive end Armonty Bryant in the first quarter of a preseason NFL football game Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014, in Cleveland.

quarterbacks that are released and there may or may not be some quarterbacks out there that have trade value."

Fisher confirmed the extent of the injury first reported by ESPN and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. He said no timetable had been set for surgery.

"We're going to move forward, we're not going to change anything," Fisher said.

Fisher said. "The news was devastating to him."

The coach quickly added that everyone at Rams Park must quickly become accustomed to the 34-year-old Hill running the offense.

"We're going to move forward, we're not going to change anything," Fisher said.

"We have to move on and Shaun's the guy."

In all, five starters were hurt in the first half against the Browns Saturday night. Fisher called it a "nightmare."

Cornerback Trumaine Johnson was carted off with a knee injury and three others—guard Rodger Saffold and defensive tackles Kendall Langford and Michael Brockers—left with ankle injuries.

Johnson will be out 4-6 weeks with an MCL tear, but Fisher said Saffold, Langford and Brockers could play if needed in the preseason finale Thursday at Miami.

Bradford was injured in the first quarter of Saturday night's 33-14 preseason victory at Cleveland. He was hit on his left side by Browns defensive end Armonty Bryant as he threw a pass, and hopped briefly on his right leg before dropping to the ground.

Fisher said the injury was a "one in 100" rarity.

"The knee was locked and something has to give," Fisher said. "Unfortunately, the ACL gave."

Bradford, the first overall pick of the 2010 draft, missed the last nine games last season after getting injured at Carolina. The Rams also have rookie Garrett Gilbert and Austin Davis on the roster.

Hill strolled through the auditorium to a meeting as Fisher walked to the podium and Davis also made an appearance during the news conference.

"Shaun's our guy," Fisher said. "I brought him here."

The Rams shifted to a ground-heavy offense after Bradford was injured last year and Kellen Clemens inherited the job. They were 3-4 with Bradford and 4-5 with Clemens.

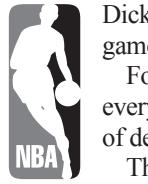
Unlike Bradford, Clemens was a bit of a scrambler. Hill is more in the Bradford mold of a drop-back passer.

After the game, Fisher thought Bradford might have hyperextended the knee and was "very optimistic." Bradford walked off the field, and then walked to the locker room after the injury.

Wide receiver Brian Quick said he was assured by the

Bavetta looks back on a lifetime in basketball

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER



Dick Bavetta never missed a game.

Fortunately for him, not everyone has that same sense of devotion.

The year was 1966, and Bavetta was in a stockbroker-league basketball game at the Downtown Athletic Club in New York. His team played in the first game on the schedule that night. The game ended, Bavetta grabbed a quick shower and returned to the court because his brother—a police detective—was one of the referees working the second game.

His brother's partner never showed. So Bavetta grudgingly agreed to take his place.

And with that, what became a 48-year odyssey of blowing the whistle got underway.

"Otherwise," Bavetta said, "I probably would be a burned-out stockbroker right now."

Turns out, that night marked the most

ironic of beginnings. After 39 years in the NBA and without a single missed assignment—a source of immense pride for one of the game's most recognizable referees—Bavetta has made his last call. He has officially retired, a decision announced by the league last week and marking the end of a career that saw him work a record 2,635 consecutive games, including 270 playoff contests and 27 NBA Finals games.

The rigors of travel especially this past winter, holidays spent separated from family, nights away from his wife Paulette and their 460-acre ranch in Ocala, Florida, it all took a toll on the 74-year-old Bavetta.

"I'm healthy," Bavetta said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "I feel at peace with making the decision. I've been very blessed and fortunate to be part of the NBA family for 39 years. They've provided a great livelihood for me and my family. And moving forward, it will always



Bavetta

be part of my DNA. For so long, 'I'm Dick Bavetta, an NBA referee' has just come out. Now it's time for 'I'm Dick Bavetta, former NBA referee.'"

From that hesitant beginning working alongside his brother, Bavetta got to see the world with his whistle.

It took nine years of trying before he got into the NBA, making his debut Dec. 2, 1975, only a couple miles from where his career inauspiciously began. Bavetta's

first NBA gig was a Knicks-Celtics game at Madison Square Garden; Dave Cowens scored 25, three other Boston players scored at least 20, and the Celtics prevailed 103-100.

Over the years that followed, Bavetta would work three All-Star Games—not including the one where he would famously race Charles Barkley, a sprint that left both tumbling to the court at the end. He was tabbed for the 1992 Olympics in Spain, plus games in France, Mexico and Japan.

"Dick's dedication and commitment

"Thanks a lot guys. Sorry if I can't reply to everyone. I want to thank Rain or Shine for choosing me to be part of their family," Cruz tweeted.

Jomar Tumaquip and Dan Barcenas, Cruz's former teammates, and coaches Joe Diaz and Elias Rangamar welcomed his latest achievement and were pleased to see the former Island Boy who learned and started playing at Garapan's Basketball Court make it to the PBA.

"Congratulations brother! Your dream finally came true, now live it up.

shine and temperatures in the high 70s before a crowd of 28,671 at Lamade Stadium.

South Korean fans, brightly dressed in flowing satin robes of yellow and electric blue, danced with large fans in the latter innings.

Chicago, the Great Lakes Region champions, came back from 3-0 and 5-4 deficits to beat favored West champ Las Vegas Mountain Ridge 7-5 in the U.S. title game on Saturday. Earlier, South Korea, the Asia-Pacific Region winner, rolled over Japan, 12-3.

But they couldn't come back against the powerful South Koreans, who asserted themselves early.

Leadoff hitter Choi drilled the very first pitch over the wall in right, but a few feet foul. He then flied out deep to right.

Sin followed by smacking a screaming liner to center that slipped out of the glove of DJ Butler for a two-base error.

ers. John Lewis Jr. matched the output of the entire Kanoa Resort crew, while Eugene Manglona chipped in 6, while four others added one field goal apiece.

The 23 points World Resort recorded in the final frame was the team's largest in a quarter. World Resort had only 14 in the opening canto to fall behind by 3 points. Edward Armia led Kanoa Resort's good start, firing 7 markers, while only Kae Bernardo knocked down more than one field goal for World Resort.

Bernardo's teammates started hitting their mark in the second period, as World Resort improved its shooting a bit to force a standoff at halftime, 33-all. Jomar Danas scored 6 points and three of his teammates drained at least

Stay safe and healthy," said Tumaquip.

"First of all, congratulations and I wish him all the best on his new career as a professional player. I hope we could still play again for the CNMI national team," said former Mt. Carmel School standout Barcenas, Cruz's former teammate in the CNMI men's national basketball team in the 2010 Micronesian Games, in a telephone interview.

Diaz, who coached Cruz as a 12-year-old with the G-Rollers, also has praises for his former player. "I'm very proud

Hwang's double brought in the first run.

With one out in the third, Choi walked and Sin singled sharply up the middle. After a double steal, Choi came home on Hwang's ground-out to third.

Hwang set down the first six Chicago hitters, four on strikeouts.

Butler broke up Hwang's no-hitter with a spinning cue shot to short that he beat out leading off the third. That was all for Hwang after he had mentioned to his coaches that he was sick between innings.

He traded places with first baseman Choi, who was greeted by shortstop Ed Howard's bouncer to the mound that was scored a single, prompting the first prolonged chants of "U-S-A!" for the day. Choi then fanned Cameron Bufford before leadoff hitter Pierce Jones - who had three homers in the LLWS opener but was just 1 for 12 since - walked to load the bases with one out.

two field goals apiece, while Duenas led Kanoa Resort with his 7 points.

Duenas was then held to 2 points in the third period, but Kanoa Resort managed to regain the upper hand, thanks to Mico Usi and Armia. After making only one field goal in the entire first half, Usi hit three straight baskets for Kanoa Resort in the first five minutes of the third period, while Armia finished what he started, hitting the team's last 6 markers.

World Resort failed to move in front in the third canto, as it canned only four field goals and only three players scored for the squad. The needed help and balance scoring came in for World Resort in the fourth quarter with Lewis leading the team's uprising. Before showing up in the final frame, Lewis

to his craft has been an inspiration to all NBA officials," Rod Thorn, the NBA's President of Basketball Operations, said in a statement released by the league last week. "We are grateful for his contributions to our league, and we wish him the best as he enjoys his well-earned retirement."

So what's next?

Bavetta, a Brooklyn native who attended Power Memorial—Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's school—isn't sure.

Charity is important to Bavetta, who has personally funded scholarships to parochial schools to minority children for years. He's also been directly involved with the Double Hole in the Woods Ranch in upstate New York; that camp has given critically ill children and their families a respite since 1992.

"I've always enjoyed being able to give back," Bavetta said.

He and his wife have already checked out the local community theater schedule for the coming season. There's a couple grandchildren that he wouldn't mind fussing over.

of his achievement. I am glad that he started off with me. His hard work had already paid off. He is there now in the pro league in the Philippines."

Rangamar added that Cruz being drafted in the PBA will serve as an inspiration to the young players to work hard.

"The foundation of his skills started here on Saipan, it helped him get to where he is now and now kids here can look up to him. He really has the potential and this is great news for the CNMI basketball community."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	73	55	.570	—
New York	67	61	.523	6
Toronto	66	64	.508	8
Tampa Bay	64	66	.492	10
Boston	56	74	.431	18

Central Division

Kansas City	72	57	.558	—
Detroit	70	59	.543	2
Cleveland	66	63	.512	6
Chicago	59	71	.454	13½
Minnesota	58	72	.446	14½

West Division

Los Angeles	77	52	.597	—
Oakland	76	53	.589	1
Seattle	71	58	.550	6
Houston	55	76	.420	23
Texas	50	79	.388	27

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	75	54	.581	—
Atlanta	68	63	.519	8
Miami	64	65	.496	11
New York	61	70	.466	15
Philadelphia	58	72	.446	17½

Central Division

Milwaukee	72	58	.554	—
St. Louis	70	59	.543	1½
Pittsburgh	67	63	.515	5
Cincinnati	63	68	.481	9½
Chicago	58	72	.446	14

West Division

Los Angeles	74	58	.561	—
San Francisco	68	61	.527	4½
San Diego	60	69	.465	12½
Arizona	55	76	.420	18½
Colorado	52	77	.403	20½

THE BARCLAYS SCORES

PARAMUS, New Jersey (AP) — Scores Sunday from the \$8-million PGA-The Barclays, played at the par-71, 7,319-yard Ridgewood Country Club course:

FINAL

Hunter Mahan (2,500), \$1,440,000	66-71-68-65-270
Stuart Appleby (1,083), \$597,333	73-66-68-65-272
Jason Day (1,083), \$597,333	72-64-68-68-272
Cameron Tringale (1,083), \$597,333	66-68-67-66-272
Ernie Els (500), \$292,000	68-68-71-66-273
Matt Kuchar (500), \$292,000	68-70-68-67-273
William McGirt (500), \$292,000	68-71-68-66-273
Jim Furyk (425), \$248,000	66-69-69-70-274
Rickie Fowler (363), \$208,000	68-73-67-67-275
Greg Hoffman (363), \$208,000	70-70-66-69-275
Kevin Na (36	

7 ease way to 'Road to Glory'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Introductions of seven fighters took longer than the time they finished off their respective opponents in last Friday's Rites of Passage 17: Road to Glory at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Trench Tech/Zalaka's Jordan "The Machine" Manglona recorded the second fastest victory in ROP 17, beating UMA Guam's Ethan "Typhoon" Reyes in 55 seconds of the first round of their 135-lb bout. Manglona won via rear-naked choke, as he utilized his long arms and legs to hold down the much shorter Reyes. The two lanky fighters seemed headed for a stand-up fight as they exchanged kicks and punches



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

High Blood Pressure Guam's Dustin Smith uses a rear-naked choke on Pwang's Garry "Dissa" Ray during the first round of their bout in Rites of Passage 17: Road to Glory held last Friday at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

right at the opening bell. However after a few wayward kicks, Manglona got a grip on Reyes and pinned him down to gain control and throw some punches to the body of the Guam fighter. Reyes then tried to get out of the jam, crawling out of the corner, but Manglona followed him and this time went behind him to employ the lock and the former was forced to tap out five minutes before the first round ended.

Two more fighters earned wins under the one-minute mark, while four others recorded victories in less than two minutes.

Guam's Leo "The Lion King" Mendiola got a lucky break and was awarded victory at the 38-second mark of the first round when his opponent Jay "BonBon" Camacho of MCAMMA was disqualified due to an illegal kick.

Camacho was the aggressor in the first MMA bout of the night as he connected on a solid right and held Mendiola down to the corner. Camacho then unleashed more punches and got out of control, as he kicked Mendiola.

Another Guam fighter, Dustin Smith of High Blood Pressure also brought his foe, Garry "Dissa" Ray of Pwang down the canvas and used a rear-naked choke to force the latter to tap out 56 seconds into the first round.

Trench Tech's Vince "The Clinch" Masga also worked on a rear-naked choke versus independent fighter Daniel "Flowmotion" Floor to end their 135-lb bout at the 1:09 mark of the opening round. Masga just waited for the right timing, allowing Floor to let go off wild punches and when the latter moved in closer, the former got a hold

of the challenger and slammed him to the ground. Masga kept his hold for the early win.

Duplicating Masga's first round triumph was Guam's Eric "Gatty" Gatman, who secured the top position against Rota's Keith "K Oz" Ogo and unloaded a flurry of punches to notch a TKO win via referee stoppage at the 1:44 mark of Round 1.

Mike Mendiola of HBP also registered a TKO victory against independent fighter John Tudela at the 1:47 mark of the first round. The referee stopped the 170-lb bout as Mendiola mounted Tudela and threw multiple strikes.

Meanwhile, Shake "Pikaboo" Alvarez posted the lone first round win in three kickboxing bouts last week. Alvarez went for a spinning back kick that hit Red Ants Academy's Jones on

NMSA wants 5 sports revived



The Northern Marianas Sports Association is seeking expression of interest from men and women to organize national federations and coach teams in wrestling, softball, bodybuilding, table tennis, and rugby 7s.

NMSA president Michael White said at one time, there were active federations in each of these sports and under the leadership of these federations, teams representing the CNMI participated in the Micronesian Games,

the Pacific Games, and other international competitions with some success.

"However, over the past few years, federations in these sports have become inactive, and with the exception of softball, the sports are no longer being actively played in the CNMI," he said.

White said NMSA believes that the CNMI can excel in these sports and its athletes should participate in them internationally.

However, NMSA recognizes that, in order to rebuild the programs in these sports, NMSA needs people who share its goals, who have the time and the interest to implement them, and who are willing to make the effort to do so.

"If there are men and women who are interested in organizing these sports in the CNMI, and in leading our national teams, NMSA would appreciate the opportunity to meet with them to discuss how we might progress toward our goal," said White.

The NMSA president said those interested can contact him by email at mwhite@saipan.com, and tell NMSA about their interest, their qualification, and how NMSA can help them lead the CNMI forward in these sports. (NMSA)



Mugs

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the face. Jones was visibly shaken after Alvarez's attack and could not steer his way back to his fighting form, as referee Keith Nabors called off the bout at the 1:26 mark of Round 1.

The two other K1 matches went to the judges' scorecards with UMA Guam's Jayvin "The Prodigy" Santos and Jorell "Elusive Meno" pulling off wins via split decisions over Red Ants Academy's Matthew "The Mighty Mouse" Sablan and Team Strikeforce's Jamaal "The Striker" Mresbang, respectively.

In other MMA results, Zalaka's Allan "The Silver Bullet" Aguon won via verbal tapout against WFO's Frankie Ramangmao 19 seconds into the second round, while Team Shockers' Ray "Faluwasch" Teregeyo defeated Down 2 Scrap's Jon "Outlaw" Camacho at the 59-second mark of Round 1 via referee stoppage.

Ramangmao and Aguon were pretty even after Round 1. However, right after the two fighters touched gloves signaling the start of the first round Aguon caught Ramangmao by surprise, unleashing a solid punch to the latter's chest. Ramangmao wobbled, as he stepped back to catch his breath and made a signal to the referee.

In the Teregeyo-Camacho bout, the former had the slight edge in the first round before the former assumed the top position and pounded his hapless foes with punches to the head.

Joining Teregeyo in the winners circle in last Friday's ROP 17 were Trench Tech's Lucas "Irish Zombie" Nutting, HIBP Guam's Frank Quidacay, Guam Muay Thai's Rocky "The Rock Star" Quichocho, and Team Intense's Renz "The Intense" Benghit. Nutting scored a third round-win (2:19) against Team Shockers' Tan "Titan" Taisacan via standing Guillotine choke, while Quichocho bagged a unanimous win in his heavyweight bout over Trench Tech's Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas. Quidacay and Benghit got free wins after a no-show from their respective foes.

Two in a row for Ghasias Brothers; Ali'i wins fourth

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Ghasias Brothers and Ali'i are on a roll, following their contrasting wins in the 2014 DLX Invitational Basketball League last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Ali'i notched its fourth win in as many games after thwarting Flip Top in the curtain-raiser, 77-71, while Ghasias Brothers pummeled Morales Boys in the second match, 121-79, to gain its second straight win after a 0-4 start.

Ghasias Brothers outgunned Morales Boys in the last three quarters to hand the latter its second loss in as many matches. After keeping up with Ghasias Brothers in the first period and forcing a deadlock, 25-all; Morales Boys failed to counter the former's hot shooting in the final three frames. Ghasias Brothers hit shots from all corners in the second quarter and established the double-digit lead at the break, 54-43.

The lead ballooned in the second half, as members of the Pelisamen clan alternately bombarded Morales Boys

with triples and short jumpers. Freddie Pelisamen led Ghasias Brothers with his 26 points, Jonathan added 16, while Jacob and Ben chipped in 14 and 11, respectively. Three other Ghasias Brothers players scored in twin digits with Mike Olaitiman tallying 16, Michael Laniyo contributing 15, and Joe Acosta logging 10.

Nelson Samson led Morales Boys with his 23 markers.

In the first game, Nate Mateo, Errol Peredo, and Raymond Velasco canned timely baskets in the fourth quarter to foil Flip Top's comeback bids.

Flip Top played catch up in the fourth, as it lost a 3-point halftime lead when Ali'i doubled up the former in the third, 22-11, for a 59-51 advantage. Ron Gamboa and Jun Estolas scored baskets in streaks their attempt to bring Flip Top back in the game, but Mateo and company countered to preserve the lead and the win. Mateo scored 6 points in the fourth, while Peredo and Velasco combined for 9. Peredo hit a triple in the homestretch, while Mateo registered Ali'i last basket and first two.

Peredo top-scored for Ali'i with his 18, while Mateo and Velasco chipped in 16 and 12, respectively. Perry Inos



paced Flip Top with his 21 markers, but was limited to 2 field goals in the fourth canto. Inos and company absorbed their second loss in four games.

First Game

Ali'i 77 – Peredo 18, Mateo 16, Velasco 12, Mendoza 11, De Dios 8, Camacho 4, Garcia 3.

Flip Top 71 – Inos 21, J. Estolas 19, Gamboa 19, Capalad 10, Estanislao 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-11, 37-40, 59-51, 77-71.

Second Game

Ghasias Brothers 121 – F. Pelisamen 26, Olaitiman 16, Jo. Pelisamen 16, Laniyo 15, Ja. Pelisamen 14, B. Pelisamen 11, Acosta 10, Lisua 6, Ru Luke 2.

Morales Boys 79 – Samson 23, Jose 15, Dela Rama 14, Mamaril 12, Dayrit 7, Morales 6.

Scoring by quarters: 25-25, 54-43, 79-61, 121-79.

Ghasias Brothers' Mike Olaitiman goes up high for a layup against Hite Beer's Alex Lauron in an earlier game in the DLX caging this month at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



**Hamilton
powers Angels
past A's**

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

**Mahan comes up
with timely victory
at The Barclays**

PAGE 25



28 TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Jericho drafted in PBA 1st round

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The No. 9 turned out to be lucky for Jericho Cruz as the former member of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands men's national basketball team was picked ninth overall in last Sunday's Philippine Basketball Association annual rookie draft.

The former Adamson University King Falcon was drafted in the first round by Rain or Shine Elasto Painters.

PBA Cruz first used the No. 9 on his jersey when he started playing basketball on Saipan. He also wore the number when he played for the Adamson Falcons and coincidentally his daughter, Pristine Thea, was also born March 9.

"Up to now he still can't believe it. [The No. 9] was the first jersey number given by his coach and he never changed that. He feels it's his lucky number. When our daughter was born on March 9 we got more blessings. Coincidence or not, but the No. 9 made his dreams come true," said Cruz's wife Mosh Carlos Cruz.

The 22-year-old is expected to beef

See JERICHO on Page 26



KC CRUZ

Former CNMI national player Jericho Cruz wears the cap and jacket of Rain or Shine Elasto Painters after the Philippine Basketball Association team selected him No. 9 overall in last Sunday's annual draft of Asia's first professional basketball league.

Hwang, Choi lift S. Korea past Chicago to win LLWS

By RUSTY MILLER
AP SPORTS WRITER



SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP)—In the giddy moments after South

Korea won the Little League World Series, outfielder Don Wan Sin realized how he wanted to celebrate.

"I want to go to the Blue House—the White House of Korea—and meet the President," Sin said, breaking up his teammates.

Just maybe Sin, who scored twice and hit a solo homer, will indeed get his wish to meet Park Geun-hye.

He's famous back in his homeland—along with all of his teammates.

Jae Yeong Hwang drove in two runs and combined with Hae Chan Choi, who weathered a late Chicago rally, to lead the Asia-Pacific Region champions to an 8-4 win in Sunday's LLWS championship game.

Hwang, who was removed because he wasn't feeling well, gave up one hit in two-plus innings while striking out four. He also drove in his team's



first two runs as they built an 8-1 lead before Jackie Robinson West made it close.

"I'm very joyful. It's a wonderful feeling," Hwang said. "I don't know why I'm even here; I didn't play very good today."

Choi, who had a homer and scored twice, pitched the last four innings for South Korea, which won its third title after back-to-back championships in 1984 and '85.

But even he got a little nervous at the end after Chicago collected four of its six hits and scored three times.

"I knew I could allow some runs," he said. "After I got the second out, I thought I could do it. But after I gave up the three runs I was (worried)."

International teams have won the last

See HWANG on Page 26

South Korea's Hae Chan Choi celebrates after getting Chicago's Ed Howard to ground out for the final out of the Little League World Series championship baseball game in South Williamsport, Pa., Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014. South Korea won 8-4.

Fourth-quarter surge lifts World Resort to win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



World Resort rallied past Kanoa Resort in the fourth quarter to win its first playoff game, 67-54, in the 2014 Budweiser Inter-Hotel Basketball League last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

World Resort went on a 23-7 scoring binge in the final canto to turn a 44-47 deficit at the end of the third period to a 13-point victory and boost its semis chances. World Resort's foe has yet to be determined, but another

See FOURTH on Page 26

World Resort's Jomar Danas, center, goes up for a shot against Kanoa Resort's Fred Litulumar, right, and Matt Duenas during the first quarter of their playoff game in the Inter-Hotel caging last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

